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Soviet Union

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SKEPTICISM EXPRESSED OVER LATEST U.S. INF MOVES

U.S. Proposals Make Accord 'Less Likely'

PM270855 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 83 First Edition p 5

[Yevgeniy Grigoryev "Commentator's Column": "Much Ado..."]

[Text] The drums are already sounding. Washington and NATO propaganda is currently advertising a certain "forthcoming U.S. initiative" at the Geneva talks on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe. It is reported that the White House sent letters about this to allied NATO state leaders. In Brussels the Americans immediately convened the "NATO Special Consultative Group," whose session aimed at "raising interest" was surrounded with particular confidentiality. Of course, the U.S. President himself has been engaging in advertisement and self-advertisement. He declared that he is apparently burning with desire "to achieve a successful result" at the Geneva talks.

Well, this possibility does exist. To achieve it, a serious and businesslike attitude to the Soviet Union's well-known constructive initiatives is needed. In that case the nuclear arsenals of medium-range means in Europe would be reduced by a factor of three and the deployment of new types of these weapons here would be averted. Here the Soviet Union claims not a single missile nor a single aircraft more than NATO would then have. It may be asked: What else is needed for an honest and just agreement!

However, judging by the propaganda ballyhoo being raised, the United States wants not so much to assist as to evade this possibility. The American "initiatives" which are being propagandized in advance are in general -- as proclaimed across the ocean -- merely the "development of the U.S. proposal on an interim agreement." And the aim of the "interim option" has long since been exposed. It is a question of the United States' claiming the "right" to deploy in Europe -- in addition to British and French missiles already stationed there -- its own new weapons in equal numbers to the remaining Soviet missiles. In other words, while unilaterally reducing its own medium-range facilities, the USSR would also have to give its blessing to the deployment of new American missiles targeted against it and its allies. The "modification" of such an idea is still a mockery of common sense.

Washington is maneuvering for dear life. An overwhelming majority of West Europeans do not believe Reagan's declarations about his desire for agreement in Geneva. This camouflaging of Washington's political line and practical activity aimed at sabotaging the talks, deploying the missiles on the pretext of the talks' failure, and transforming West Europe into the United States' nuclear hostage is too transparent. And now, instead of genuine flexibility, we can see just another attempt being made to create the "impression of U.S. flexibility" in Geneva with an eye on the mass antimissile movement and mood in Europe. As far as the central matter is concerned, as REUTERS acknowledges, "these proposals in practice make the attainment of an agreement this year even less likely."

Thus, for the umpteenth time Washington's assurances of its good intentions prove, upon checking, to be paving the way to a "nuclear inferno." And the people will soon realize this, however loud the drumroll of NATO propaganda.

U.S. Seeking To 'Mislead World Opinion

LD261746 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 24 Sep 83

[From the Vremya newcast]

[Text] An official White House spokesman has stated that the U.S. delegation at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva has received instructions to display considerable flexibility. Here is political observer Valentin Zorin:

[Begin Zorin video recording] Indeed, over the last few days there have again been statements from Washington about some kind of flexibility in the American position at the Geneva talks and about an alleged striving by the White House to introduce some movement in these talks, which have for a long time been making no progress. This new note in the American propaganda orchestration might seem unexpected considering the unprecedented heat of the slanderous campaign being whipped up by Washington in connection with the provocation it organized itself involving the South Korean aircraft. The anti-Soviet hysterics of the leaders of the Reagan administration do not somehow go with the allegedly sober and balanced approach to the problems being discussed at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva. However, on careful examination one detects that the discrepancy is purely an external one, and it is a case of a carefully planned unified operation that aims to provide a propaganda cover for the deployment of American missiles in Western Europe in the very near future and to divert the international public's attention from U.S. aggressive actions in other parts of the world.

Of what flexibility on Washington's part and striving to seriously discuss the problems of halting the nuclear arms race can one speak in light of the fact that the Reagan administration has embarked on plainly sabotaging the constructive and far-reaching Soviet proposals set forth in recent statements by Comrade Andropov? The unprecedented scope of the anti-Soviet campaign unleashed by Washington, which is without parallel in postwar years, has the aim of undermining the conditions for a normal discussion of the problems of disarmament and of weakening the antiwar movement, particularly the Europeans' resistance to the deployment on their territory this autumn of the U.S. Pershing missiles. The raising of the specter of the Soviet threat should also -- according to the plans of the directors of the propaganda chorus -- divert the world's attention from direct U.S. aggression in the Near East and from imperialist interference in the affairs of Central America.

That, so to speak, is one side of Washington's propaganda scenario. The other side is addressed to those circles of the international public in which one detects no inclination to be averse to ill-gotten gains and who will appraise in a worthy fashion the White House's invariably negative response to all the Soviet Union's constructive proposals. The blocking of the Geneva talks by the American side and the undermining of the normal atmosphere for the holding of these talks are fraught with undesirable political consequences for Washington and with its self-exposure. This is the reason for the attempts -- while continuing to occupy unrealistic positions and by means of a simulation of this same notorious flexibility -- to earn political points, to mislead world public opinion, and to divest itself of responsibility for the situation that has come about. However, neither political actions in the spirit of the cold war nor the White House's diversionary rhetorical maneuvering can hide the fact that it is Washington that is responsible for the current international tension. [end video recording]

Soviet INF Initiatives Itemized

LD270120 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The Geneva talks on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe have moved into their decisive phase. On the outcome depends the fate of every European and American, indeed the destinies of the world. If agreement is reached on a radical and just reduction of nuclear arsenals in Europe, our planet will become a calmer place to live in. In the opposite case an extremely dangerous round of the nuclear arms race will begin, and this could put the world on the verge of universal destruction. What has the Soviet Union brought to the negotiating table in Geneva? Here is what our observer Lev Semeyko writes:

The Soviet Union is ready to eliminate absolutely all its missiles and medium-range planes and all its tactical nuclear weapons in Europe if the United States and its nuclear allies are ready to eliminate their corresponding weapons on the continent. This proposal was made 2 years ago and came to be known as the absolute zero proposal. However, the NATO countries refused to accept it and in this way the bloc's leaders yet again showed that their words about a desire to achieve nuclear disarmament are nothing but words.

The Soviet Union has left its nuclear zero proposal in force and over the past 2 years has come out with a series of other variations for agreement, variations which on the one hand meet the principle of equality and equal security, while on the other taking into account Western desires. The Soviet variations are based on three ideas. The first is to reduce medium-range nuclear arsenals by two-thirds, that is down to 300 delivery systems for the Soviet Union on the one hand and for the United States, Britain, and France on the other. In this case only the Soviet and U.S. delivery systems would be subject to reduction, while the British and French would only be taken into account.

However, if Britain and France too would begin reducing their nuclear armaments the USSR would, additionally, cut its delivery systems by an equal number.

The second idea is that reductions should apply not only to missiles, as the United States insists, but also to medium-range aircraft -- that is, to the entire arsenal of delivery systems. In that case the number of missiles and warheads on them would be equal; so would the number of planes and the charges that they carry.

And, finally, the third idea -- it envisages a renunciation by the USSR and United States of deployment of new types of medium-range missiles in Europe, meaning that the United States should not install Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe, and the Soviet Union, for its part, should not deploy similar weapons. The reduction would apply only to the weapons that the two sides had at the beginning of the 1980's. All the delivery systems affected by this reduction would have to be scrapped. For its part the USSR would also eliminate a considerable number of SS-20 missiles, which are causing the West the greatest anxiety. The missiles subject to reduction would not be moved to the east; they would be destroyed. Naturally, the corresponding facilities and equipment that the United States has already set up in preparation for deploying the Pershing II and cruise missiles would also be subject to dismantling and destruction.

In other words, the Soviet proposal now on the negotiating table does not impair the security interests of the United States and its allies in Europe or in the Far East. The Soviet proposal is aimed at ensuring an equilibrium of forces in Europe at a lower level and it is precisely at such an equilibrium that there can be a most lasting security.

The Soviet proposal takes into account an objective reality: In Europe it is not Soviet and U.S. nuclear forces opposing each other but the nuclear might of two blocs. The British and French nuclear forces make up one-fourth of NATO's total in Europe; and the Soviet Union, of course, cannot fail to take these into account.

Washington, Bonn Collaborate on 'New Lie'

DW270709 Moscow in German to Germany 1600 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Valentin Sakharov commentary: "A New Lie"]

[Text] Esteemed ladies and gentlemen, a specter is haunting Bonn -- the specter of new proposals by the American President for the Geneva negotiations. Reagan himself has made much ado about these proposals by describing them as a substantial further development of those proposals made in March this year. Leading politicians from the government parties and even many high-ranking politicians from the opposition in Bonn have also made much ado.

What official Bonn is celebrating as a considerable development and welcoming as an initiative by Reagan is actually the fruit of intensive consultations between Washington and Bonn. Foreign Minister Genscher wouldn't be Genscher if he didn't say that the Federal Government had introduced ideas of its own during the formulation of the proposals. Thus Bonn's top politicians are congratulating themselves in welcoming the Reagan initiative. Consequently, it is obvious that the laurels of new proposals for Geneva are shared by Washington and Bonn.

What do the new proposals from Washington and Bonn actually look like? In their new proposals for the Geneva negotiations, neither President Reagan, nor Chancellor Kohl, nor Foreign Minister Genscher is giving up the planned stationing of American cruise and Pershing II missiles in the FRG and several other NATO countries. This shows that neither Washington nor Bonn is interested in positive results at the Geneva negotiations. In their new proposals, neither Reagan, nor Kohl, nor Genscher is abandoning the so-called interim solution which is actually now blocking the Geneva negotiations. Rather, in their modified interim solution, all of these politicians continue to insist on the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles. Reagan, Kohl, and Genscher are also not changing their refusal to also include the British and French intermediate-range missile systems at the Geneva negotiations, and Chancellor Kohl even went so far as to call on the Soviet Union to abandon its demand that the British and French intermediate-range missiles be counted.

Reagan, Kohl, and Genscher do not intend to realize that, through its proposals only recently made in the reply from Yuriy Andropov to the SPD deputies, the Soviet Union has opened the door for a just agreement in Geneva.

It is obvious from everything I have said that the talk in Washington and Bonn about so-called new NATO proposals for the Geneva negotiations is nothing but a new lie. Everything remains as it was for Washington, which continues to obstruct the Geneva negotiations now with the help of Bonn politicians.

Appeal To Postpone Deployment Cited

PM251906 Moscow TRUD in Russian 18 Sep 83 p 3

[TASS report: "Reagan: 'Pershings' Will Be Deployed"]

[Text] Washington, 17 Sep -- B. Kreisky, prominent figure in the Social Democratic Party of Austria and former chancellor, wrote to U.S. President R. Reagan expressing profound concern at the lack of progress at the Geneva talks on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe.

In his letter B. Kreisky makes it clear that the aggravation of the war danger in Europe, and consequently, in the world as a whole, is directly tied up with NATO's intention to deploy the new U.S. nuclear missiles on the European Continent. In this connection he urgently appeals to R. Reagan to abandon the "ultimate deadline" established by NATO strategists, by which time the first contingent of Pershing II and cruise missiles are to be deployed on the territory of a number of West European states. In B. Kreisky's opinion, even if no progress has been achieved at the Geneva talks by that date, they must be continued. This is the demand, he stressed, of many West Europeans.

In his reply President R. Reagan hypocritically alleges that "the United States firmly opposes the arms race." However, he also confirms that his administration intends to continue to insist on the pseudo-zero and "interim" options, which boil down to the fact that one side -- the Soviet Union -- is to disarm, and the other -- the United States and its NATO partners -- are, on the contrary, to arm. He advocated the deployment of the new U.S. missiles in Europe within the "established deadlines."

It follows from R. Reagan's statement that the current Washington administration is not contemplating any attempts to find a mutually acceptable agreement and, without awaiting the completion of the talks, has already decided for itself the question of the deployment in Europe of new missiles calculated to upset the existing approximate balance of forces. This contradicts the positions of most European states and the very principle of holding talks to find mutually acceptable decisions.

ANDROPOV INF MOVES EMBODY 'CONCEPT OF SECURITY'

AU231623 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 22 Sep 83 p 6

[Article by Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department: "The Soviet Concept of Security and Yu. Andropov's New Proposals" -- passages in uppercase published in boldface]

[Text] AS A RESULT OF THE EMERGENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, OUR AGE IS MARKED BY A THREAT OF WAR AS NO PERIOD IN THE PAST. IT IS, IN PRINCIPLE, THE VERY EXISTENCE OF MANKIND WHICH IS IN JEOPARDY. HOWEVER, THE DIALECTICS OF THIS QUESTION ARE SUCH THAT, TOGETHER WITH THE EMERGENCE OF THIS MENACE, THE PEOPLE'S MASSES HAVE ALSO REALIZED ITS DEPTH AND THE NECESSITY TO AVERT A NUCLEAR WAR.

On the one hand, the preparation of war and feverish pursuit of armament unconditionally remain an instrument of policy-making and a continuation of policy, an instrument used by some countries to exert pressure on and to blackmail other countries. However, on the other, the actual use of nuclear devices, that is, the attempt to unleash a nuclear war, is, in fact, senseless, as a nuclear war cannot resolve any political problems. It can only lead to the destruction of all participants in it and, possibly, to the extinction of modern civilization as such.

THE SOVIET CONCEPT OF SECURITY, WHICH PROCEEDS FROM THESE REALITIES, CAN BE SUMMED UP IN SIX BASIC STIPULATIONS. These are:

FIRST. We believe that THE CHIEF AND BASIC CONDITION FOR SAFEGUARDING THE SECURITY OF EACH COUNTRY AND EACH NATION IN THE NUCLEAR AGE IS NOT TO ALLOW NUCLEAR WAR AND TO AVERT ITS THREAT.

Whereas in the past it was possible to think that the victory in a war against the other side would establish the best guarantee of one's own security, it is now absolutely absurd to perceive this issue in such a way. To rely in the nuclear age on war as a means of ensuring the security of any country is quite erroneous and, to be more precise, extraordinarily dangerous.

SECOND. According to the Soviet concept, A FEVERISH ARMS BUILDUP NOT ONLY IS NOT A MEANS OF SAFEGUARDING THE SECURITY OF ANY COUNTRY IN OUR AGE BUT, IN FACT, LEADS TO UNDERMINING OF ITS SECURITY AND INCREASES THE DANGER OF WAR.

Whereas in the past it was possible to rely on the stockpiling of weapons as a means of strengthening the security of one country or another, now a feverish arms buildup itself is becoming a source of the growing danger.

When there are too many guns, they begin to go off by themselves, people used to say. Today a computer mistake, an error committed by technical specialists, or a political error (and, as practice shows, one cannot rule out any of these factors) may trigger a war, a world catastrophe. The accumulation of too many weapons is a mine jeopardizing the future of mankind.

THE CONDITION FOR STRENGTHENING THE SECURITY of nations and states is thus the HALTING OF THE FEVERISH ARMS BUILDUP and disarmament.

THIRD. The Soviet concept is further based on the fact that THE SECURITY OF ONE COUNTRY CANNOT BE CREATED AT THE EXPENSE OF ENDANGERING OR WEAKENING THE SECURITY OF OTHER COUNTRIES AND NATIONS.

In the past it was possible to reckon that weakening the enemy's security -- for instance, by amassing new types of weapons -- would enhance one's own security. Today, on the other hand, under the conditions of the scientific-technical revolution, which has broadly gained ground in the military sphere, the attempts of one side (this is only the case of the West, of NATO) to gain military supremacy over the other side cannot yield any results at all.

Experience shows that JUST AS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO WIN A NUCLEAR WAR, IT IS EQUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO WIN THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE. The military-strategic balance that has been created between the two military-political blocs cannot in practice be upset because the East will respond to any such attempt of the West in an appropriate and effective manner. As far as the East is concerned, it is not engaged in any preparations to achieve military supremacy.

THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE PRINCIPLE OF SECURITY IN OUR AGE IS THE SAME, EQUAL SECURITY FOR ALL COUNTRIES.

FOURTH. The Soviet concept proceeds from the realization that IN OUR AGE, SECURITY CAN ONLY BE ENSURED BY A JOINT ENDEAVOR OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY, on the basis of broad cooperation of countries and nations.

Through the endeavor of only one side (country), one can only achieve a feverish arms buildup. The lethal arms race can only be stopped and the threat of war averted through broad cooperation of various states, including, naturally, those standing on different sides of the military-political barricade dividing the world.

FIFTH. The Soviet concept proceeds from the fact that SECURITY MUST BE SAFEGUARDED THROUGH THE JOINT ENDEAVOR NOT ONLY OF GOVERNMENTS BUT ALSO OF NATIONS AND SOCIAL FORCES. This is a direct consequence of the substantial growth in the awareness of the people's masses that has occurred in the past decades and which is manifested in their determination to wage an active struggle to avert war.

The participation of masses in solving international political problems has assumed in our age a truly notable, significant character. This is borne out by many facts, especially by the upsurge in Western Europe of the powerful movement against the deployment of American nuclear missiles in those countries.

SIXTH. The Soviet concept is based on the fact that SECURITY CANNOT BE ENSURED WITHOUT AN ENDEAVOR TO CREATE THE APPROPRIATE MORAL-POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE.

What matters is not only the need to broadly disseminate the ideas of peace (propaganda that must, naturally, be backed by the corresponding practical acts of states and governments). It is also essential to reject any escalation of hostilities among nations and to contribute to making the citizens of all countries realize their joint responsibility for preserving world peace.

All practical steps of Soviet foreign policy, including the set of Soviet proposals pertaining to Europe -- proposals that were recently supplemented by the new important ideas put forward by Yuriy Andropov in his 27 August 1983 interview for PRAVDA -- stem from this security concept. I will take the liberty of commenting on these new ideas not in isolation, but in the context of all the ideas and proposals the Soviet Union has been submitting during the talks on intermediate-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

When we make an attempt to generalize the essence of all Soviet ideas put forward at these talks and that the public already knows, we can state the following:

FIRST. All our proposals, from the very beginning up to now, HAVE PROCEEDED FROM THE NECESSITY TO RADICALLY REDUCE THE NUMBER OF INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR MISSILES THAT ARE, I REPEAT, THAT ARE NOW IN EUROPE.

Let us call to mind that in the beginning the Soviet Union proposed that all nuclear weapons in Europe as such -- both intermediate-range and tactical -- be liquidated. This proposal is still valid. Because the West disagreed, we proposed a reduction by two-thirds of the intermediate-range nuclear weapons that are now deployed in Europe so that only one-third of the present number of these weapons would remain in Europe.

The new Soviet proposals put forward by Yuriy Andropov introduce new important aspects into this general Soviet concept. Wherein are they new?

On the one hand, we have declared that we are READY TO LIQUIDATE THOSE SOVIET MISSILES THAT WILL BE SUBJECT TO REDUCTION IN THE EVENT OF AN AGREEMENT AND NOT TO TRANSFER THEM TO ANY OTHER LOCATION. This would significantly contribute not only to improving the situation in Europe and to reducing the number of nuclear weapons on our continent, but to general disarmament. THIS WOULD BE, IN FACT, THE FIRST PHYSICAL LIQUIDATION OF MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND ON SUCH A LARGE SCALE. It would concern more than 1,000 intermediate-range nuclear devices, including the most up-to-date missiles.

On the other hand, by agreeing not to transfer the dismantled missiles to Asia, the Soviet Union ALSO DECISIVELY CONTRIBUTES TO STRENGTHENING SECURITY IN ASIA. In this connection we may recall that the Soviet Union has already submitted proposals for talks on security problems in Asia, including, primarily, measures of military confidence on this continent. The Soviet Union has also expressed itself in favor of holding talks on intermediate-range nuclear weapons in Asia, which should be attended by all countries interested in this problem.

We must, unfortunately, note that the AMERICAN PROPOSALS BEING NOW DISCUSSED IN GENEVA ENVISAGE AN INCREASE RATHER THAN A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS THAT ARE NOW STATIONED IN WESTERN EUROPE AND WHICH THE NATO COUNTRIES HAVE AT THEIR DISPOSAL. This is the first fundamental difference between the Soviet and American proposals at the Geneva talks.

SECOND. ALL SOVIET PROPOSALS WITHOUT EXCEPTION, including the latest proposal, CONSISTENTLY PROCEED FROM THE PRINCIPLE OF THE TWO SIDES' EQUAL SECURITY.

The Soviet proposals envisage such a reduction in the present number of intermediate-range nuclear weapons, after which BOTH SIDES WOULD HAVE THE SAME NUMBER OF CARRIERS AND THE SAME NUMBER OF NUCLEAR WARHEADS. Is there anything that would be more in keeping with the principle of the two sides' equal security?

In this connection, we must especially emphasize the fact that in its plans, the Soviet Union considers both intermediate-range missiles, those launched from the ground as well as those launched from the sea, and aircraft capable of carrying the corresponding weapons, regardless of where these aircraft are stationed.

In a number of commentaries now being published, for example, in the FRG, it is being claimed that the Soviet Union's consent to reduce considerably the number of its missiles allegedly proves that the USSR "admits" its alleged supremacy in intermediate-range nuclear devices. This is a lie. The Soviet Union has no supremacy and has never sought it, nor does it seek it today. There exists an approximate balance in this type of weapons. And if the Soviet Union agrees with a definite and significant reduction of its missiles, then, understandably, this is only in the event of an OVERALL AGREEMENT encompassing ALL TYPES of intermediate-range nuclear weapons in Europe, that is, missiles as well as aircraft capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

In this connection it it impossible not to see that literally ALL AMERICAN PROPOSALS SUBMITTED IN GENEVA FAIL TO ENVISAGE THE EQUAL SECURITY OF THE SIDES, BUT DO ENVISAGE THE ACQUISITION OF SUPREMACY BY THE WEST. This is the second basic difference between the Soviet and the American proposals at the Geneva negotiations.

THIRD, ALL SOVIET PROPOSALS SUBMITTED AT THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS CONSISTENTLY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE OPINION OF THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC, OF ITS WIDEST CIRCLES.

We may recall that it was exactly in answer to the opinions voiced by the public in the West that the Soviet Union included in its stand such specifications as, for instance, the agreement to give up deploying its intermediate-range missiles not only on European territory itself, but also in those USSR regions from which these missiles can reach the territories of European states.

The Soviet Union's preparedness to include not only the carriers but also the warheads in the calculations is also a reaction to the stand adopted by the West European public.

THUS, THE NEW PROPOSALS CONSISTENTLY INCORPORATE THE SOVIET CONCEPT OF SECURITY.

In this connection one should state that, although the new Soviet proposals directly and primarily concern Europe, and to a certain extent also Asia, they correspond to the interests of the whole world, to the interests of all its areas. Because it is no secret to anyone that the deployment of American missiles in Western Europe would create a threat non only for Europe, but also for world peace; and that it would enhance the danger of a military confrontation for all nations on our planet.

The realization of Soviet proposals and the transition to a real decrease of the strengths of nuclear weapons which are currently deployed in Europe would, on the other hand, make a contribution toward easing tension throughout the world. This would be a real contribution toward ensuring security for everybody.

U.S., SOVIET INF DELEGATIONS MEET 27 SEP

LD271139 Moscow TASS in English 1114 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Geneva September 27 TASS -- The delegations of the USSR and the United States to negotiations on limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe held a plenary meeting here today.

USSR DELEGATION ARRIVES IN VIENNA FOR MBFR TALKS

LD271248 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Vienna September 27 TASS -- A Soviet delegation came here today to participate in the next round of negotiations on mutual reduction of troops and armaments in central Europe, due to open on September 29. V.V. Mikhaylov leads the USSR's delegation to the negotiations.

U.S. DEVELOPMENT OF SPACE WEAPONS ASSAILED

LD272348 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 26 Sep 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Anatoliy Doronin: commentary by commentator Nikolay Agayants]

[Text] The Soviet Union has always insisted, and continues to insist, that space should be used for peaceful purposes, for broad cooperation in this sphere among all countries. Let me remind you that on the initiative of our government, the 38th session of the UN General Assembly now working in New York was presented with a discussion document envisaging the conclusion of a treaty banning the use of force in outer space with regard to earth. The urgency and intensity of the tasks facing mankind are obvious, particularly since the Pentagon's copper helmets -- with the blessing of White House master Ronald Reagan -- are literally raving about star wars and bringing up plans to transfer the arms race to space.

It should be noted that these mad projects are not at all the fruit of inflamed imagination or a flight of fancy, but rather grim reality itself. As a UPI correspondent reports from Washington, with reference to a statement made by a high-ranking officer of the U.S. Defense Department, the United States intends to begin, already within the next few years, the development and production of 57 antisatellite systems, for which the U.S. budget provides considerable sums. The systems in question are orbital fighting stations equipped with lasers, and special missiles which will be carried on F-15 fighter-bombers. The Pentagon also places great hopes on the reusable spaceships of the Shuttle type. All these fighting space systems are being openly considered across the Atlantic as one of the key elements in the U.S. potential for a first nuclear strike.

President Reagan, in his verbosity about the optimistic prospects to begin with the development of antisatellite systems, promised the Americans that these would intercept and destroy the enemy's ballistic missiles before they fall on U.S. soil. Is the world's salvation from the threat of nuclear war not worth making all the necessary capital investments? We know the game is worth the candle, Washington's number one crusader shouted with pathos.

However, the attempts to camouflage the true militarist objectives by means of propagandist rope-walking did not fool anyone. THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote, not without venom, and I quote: The prospects painted by the President bring such relief to our souls that it seems a pity to let the facts undermine his picture. However, Reagan's talk about antimissile defense in space is a mixture of an impossible dream about some nonexistent technology and confused strategy; it is an exceptionally dangerous fantasy in so far as it deflects thinking from the real problems related to the continuing arms race and creates new dangers instead of putting an end to the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

'EDINBURGH CONVERSATIONS' DOCUMENT REVIEWED

FM261318 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Sep 83 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch from own correspondent A. Maslennikov: "Useful Dialogue"]

[Text] London, 22 Sep -- The latest round of the traditional "Edinburgh Conversations," in which prominent public figures, scientists, and experts on military-strategic matters from the USSR, Britain, and the United States took part, has ended in the Scottish capital. The Soviet delegation was headed by Academician V.G. Afanasyev, chief editor of the newspaper PRAVDA. Topical problems of the current international situation, and ways and means of halting the arms race, especially in Europe, and of consolidating East-West mutual understanding and cooperation were discussed at the meeting.

A joint statement unanimously approved by the participants in the meeting says that in the current international climate it is particularly important to continue dialogue and to maintain contacts and a free and frank exchange of views. All the participants in the meeting concluded, the document states, that a nuclear war cannot be justified and cannot be won. A so-called "limited" nuclear war is also an impossibility. All this leaves mankind no choice but to live in peace.

The document stresses the need to secure early agreements in the Geneva talks on medium-range weapons in Europe and in those on limiting and reducing strategic nuclear arms. The participants in the debate discussed other practical steps to reduce the danger of war and the arms race, including a quantitative and qualitative freeze on nuclear arsenals and the prevention of the arms race from spreading to space.

More than ever before, the document notes in conclusion, the interests of world peace and security demand a constructive new approach and positive steps to exploit every opportunity to reduce confrontation, especially in central Europe, where the current level of arms is exceptionally high.

Speaking on behalf of the meeting's organizers, J. Barnett, rector of Edinburgh, University, noted the usefulness of the discussions held and called for a continuation of the free exchange of ideas within the framework of the "Edinburgh Conversations."

Afanasyev Talks to RUDE PRAVO on Results

AU261400 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 24 September carries on page 2 a 600-word report on a "talk" given by Viktor G. Afanasyev, chief editor of Moscow PRAVDA, to RUDE PRAVO editors Miroslav Kubin, Jaroslav Mazal, and Antonin Zazvorka on an unspecified date in Prague. The report is dated Prague, 23 September 1983, and entitled "To Continue the Dialogue; PRAVDA's Chief Editor V.G. Afanasyev on the Results of the Edinburgh Meeting of Political, Scientific, and Military Experts from the USSR, Britain, and the United States."

Afanasyev is said to have been "one of the eight Soviet personalities" who took part in the "already traditional meeting of outstanding political, scientific, and military personalities from the USSR, Great Britain -- and, this time, also the United States," which dealt in Edinburgh with "contemporary international problems, above all with issues of halting a feverish nuclear arms buildup, averting the risks of a war catastrophe, and consolidating peace and international cooperation among countries with different social systems." Afanasyev is said to have stopped in Prague on his way back home from this Edinburgh meeting, which was the "fourth such meeting in succession," and which has become particularly significant in view of the "current, extremely aggravated international situation" and the ensuing urgency to conduct a dialogue and to "exchange even differing opinions on the most basic and most burning issues of today, among which the first place is held by the threat of a world nuclear conflict, a threat not yet eliminated."

The meeting "was attended by personalities from three states" who are "systematically studying these supremely topical problems," the report states, such as "the Rector of Edinburgh University, an outstanding British expert on military-strategic issues, the former director of the American agency for armament control and disarmament," E. Rostow, and others.

The"Edinburgh roundtable" is said to have "evoked considerable attention among the West European public. The adversaries of this meeting had hoped that, in the sharpened international situation, after the United States deliberately prepared and provoked the incident with the South Korean aircraft over Soviet territory, and also in connection with the exaggerated heckling anti-Soviet campaign, the dialogue would not be possible. Certain complications also cropped up with the granting of visas to Soviet participants by the British authorities. But in the end, the honest, sensible endeavor to look for common paths that will lead toward averting the war threat, above all the nuclear threat, but also the threat represented by the dangerous and destructive conventional weapons, asserted itself."

The participants in the meeting "agreed in their opinion that the theory of 'limited' nuclear war is untenable." The talks showed a 'constructive spirit" and were "frank and businesslike." The final, unanimously adopted communique is said to express the "common endeavor to contribute toward eliminating tension and toward taking steps aimed at effectively eliminating the danger of a nuclear catastrophe," and to appeal to the U.S. and USSR governments to speed up the talks on strategic and medium-range arms. The talks also dealt with the "dangerous U.S. intention to deploy the new Pershing II nuclear missiles and missiles with a flat flight trajectory in Western Europe," whereby "the British participants demanded a prolongation of the Geneva negotiations, at least until next May; but the American E. Rostow, who is generally considered to be a 'hawk,' rejected this."

The "participants in the Edinburgh Conversations" are said to "want to continue the dialogue" and to have "decided that they will also jointly strive to make its results, proposals, and recommendations known to the leading state representatives of the USSR, Great Britain, the United States, and other countries."

ISRAELYAN ATTENDS ANTI-WAR MEETING IN GENEVA

LD270232 Moscow TASS in English 2225 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Geneva September 26 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Kosinskiy reports:

The important role of public organizations in the stepping up of the campaign for world peace, for the ending of the arms race, for general and complete disarmament, was pointed out by prominent international figure, chairman of the special committee of non-governmental organizations for disarmament Sean MacBride.

He inaugurated here as chairman a three-day international anti-war meeting in which some 200 representatives of over 60 various national, international and nongovernmental organizations are taking part. He said that the need of taking urgent measures aimed at the strengthening of international security is obvious as never before in the extremely dangerous tension that developed in the world.

The continuation of the arms race threatens with a dangerous destabilisation of the fragile balance of forces that has been established in the world, UN Assistant Secretary General for Disarmament P. Davinic said in his speech. The alternative to disarmament and detente, the arms race, entails the pershing of civilisation. It is necessary to restore confidence among states with different social and economic structures, to return to the process of disarmament.

Michkund Dubey, India's permanent representative at the United Nations at Geneva, read out the message to the participants in the meeting from President of the Nonaligned Movement Indira Gandhi. The message specifically expresses the concern of the heads of nonaligned states over the spreading in the world by the imperialist and militaristic circles of the idea of the possibility of a limited nuclear war, and the thesis advanced in the United States that the nuclear arms race is allegedly unrelated to the heightening of tension in the world. Indira Gandhi also pointed to the pernicious effect of militarisation on the economies of developing countries.

Soviet representative in the Committee on Disarmament Viktor Israelyan who was invited to the meeting recalled the latest Soviet initiatives on problems of disarmament. The lack of progress at the talks in Geneva is connected with the non-compliance of the U.S. side, he said. Now that the situation in the world became critical and the threat of nuclear war is ever more real for mankind, the talks in Geneva must advance toward the achievement of concrete results. Deployment of new U.S. missile systems in Europe will complicate the situation still more. V. Israelyan stressed that the "zero" and "interim" variants suggested by the United States are unacceptable for the USSR and that the latest U.S. proposals do not contain anything new.

SOCIALIST ARMY POLITICAL AIDES CONFER IN BERLIN

PM261536 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Sep 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS Report: "Political Workers Conference"]

[Text] Berlin, 20 Sep -- A conference of political workers from the armies of the socialist countries has opened in the GDR capital. Taking part in it are delegations from the Bulgarian People's Army, the Hungarian People's Army, the GDR National People's Army, the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, the Mongolian People's Army, the Polish Armed Forces, the Romanian Armed Forces, the Soviet Army, and the CSSR People's Army. The representatives from political organs are exchanging experience in party political work.

The conference is being held at a time when the socialist countries' aspirations for safeguarding and strengthening peace are being opposed by the imperialist states' policy, aimed at confrontation and at an arms race, Colonel General H. Kessler, GDR deputy minister of national defense and chief of the National People's Army Political Directorate, declared at the conference. He spoke of the work being done by political organs in the National People's Army to raise the combat readiness of units and subunits. The study and application of the experience of the Soviet Army and the other fraternal armies occupies a central position in the activity of political organs in the National People's Army and in the development of a Leninist work style, H. Kessler emphasized.

REAGAN'S UN SPEECH DRAWS SOVIET CRITICISM

'Slander,' 'Blatant Distortion'

LD261842 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1757 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] New York, 26 Sep (TASS) -- President R. Reagan has made a hypocritical speech at the United Nations, intended to achieve the impossible by providng that the course pursued by his administration for whipping up tension and the arms race and pressing ahead with war preparations is in accordance with the exalted aims and principles of the UN Charter and the cause of world peace. The means the President employed in pursuit of this unachievable aim were expected -- blatant distortion of generally-known facts, demagogy, deliberate misinformation and outright lies.

While babbling about U.S. "devotion" to the cause of peace, Regan hypocritically expressed regret about the "growth of the use of violence" in Asia, Africa and Latin America, the Near East and other regions which, according to him, have become "fronts in the confrontation between the great powers." In this connection he singled out such countries as Lebanon, Chad, El Salvador and certain others. One may well ask: Who, if not Washington, is starting donflagrations in these countries, trying through force of arms to impose orders that suit the United States on the people? "The growth of violence" about which Reagan pharisaically complains is primarily the result of the "initiatives" of the U.S. Administration, which has raised violence to the status of state policy.

According to the Brookings Institute, from 1946 to 1975 the United States resorted to the use of armed force or the threat of the use of force against other states and peoples at least 215 times. In the past 6 years alone the U.S. Administration has resorted to armed actions and the threat of the use of armed force on 38 occasions. The speech by the head of the White House reflected exasperation at the growing gulf between the United States and the Nonaligned Movement. Only this can explain his accusations -- against those nonaligned countries that pursue a course not to Washington's liking -- that they have allegedly "lost their independence." Reagan clearly came close to the position of John Foster Dulles, who openly called the Nonaligned Movement "immoral."

As for the President's thunderous oaths of "fidenity to the aims and Charter of the United Nations," they looked more like a clumsy attempt to justify the public attacks on this international organization by official American representatives, supported by Reagan himself. What is one ot make, for example, of the declaration by the U.S. UN representative who invited those member countries of the organization who are discontented with Washington's actions to "get out" of the United States? The President once again used his speech to slander the Soviet Union. In a manner unworthy of a state leader, Reagan tried to ascribe to the Soviet Union responsibility for the provocation implemented by the American special services with the South Korean aircraft.

In general Reagan's speech was a new clumsy attempt to disinform public opinion and to disguise the aggressive, imperialist essence of U.S. foreign policy. But these attempts could hardly mislead anyone, including Americans themselves. It was not accidental that during Reagan's speech a demonstration protesting against the dangerous course of the White House, which is pushing the world toward the abyss of nuclear catastrophe, passed in front of the UN building.

President Reagan advertized his so-called new proposals on nuclear arms in Europe and claimed that the United States was displaying flexibility on the issue. But in reality the proposals are a modification of the notorious zero option which is actually aimed at the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union and it therefore unacceptable to the Soviet side.

'Propagandist Insurance' for Military

LD262222 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 26 Sep 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Anatoliy Doronin]

[Text] After a powerful preliminary propaganda campaign conducted in the U.S. mass media over a period of several days, President Reagan made a speech at the United Nations. The content of this speech, if it is to be summed up briefly, was intended to demonstrate to the international community that the Reagan administration's chief goal is peace and arms control. How can that be, is the question that immediately arises. The U.S. Administration's actions demonstrate just the opposite. Only a few days ago President Reagan signed a bill for military purchases to the tune of about $188 billion. From this account $1 billion is earmarked for the production of MX strategic missiles, for the development of the new type of Midgetman missile, for the production of B-1 strategic bombers, Trident submarines and other types of strategic nuclear weapons, medium-range Pershing II and cruise missiles, and so forth. Then $1 billion is appropriated for the development of technology designed for waging war in space, for laser weapons, for electronic warfare means, and for antimissile defense systems.

How is all this to be connected with the U.S. President's statements about desire for peace and arms control? There is no connection. These two things are in contradiction with each other, and this is self-evident. Therefore the main purpose of Reagan's UN speech, just as his preceeding VOA speech and indeed most of his other speeches, is to camouflage the government's militaristic course. His speech about peace is a kind of propagandist insurance for all those colossal military programs that have been adopted by the present administration. There is also another purpose: the ideological manipulation not only of Americans but also of people the world over. Washington is trying to show that the United States has been, as it were, forced to arm itself because the Soviet Union is threatening it and its interests. This is a blatant lie designed around the strategem that if you make people believe in the Soviet threat, it is easier to convince them of the necessity of increasing military spending and of the necessity of American armed interference in various parts of the world.

The same can be said about Reagan's widely publicized, even before the speech, new proposals which were supposed, it was said, to bring the Geneva talks out of the impasse. Here too there are only words. It transpired that the proposals contained nothing essentially new. The USSR should disarm, as before; the United States should arm. Frankly, it would have been difficult to expect anything new, especially since neither Reagan nor those who conduct affairs in Washington alongside him are interested either in the establishment of stable peace or in arms limitation. This is so because there is no such interest among the circles that brought them to the heights of state power.

'Development' of 'Past Proposals'

LD262235 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1145 GMT 24 Sep 83

[From the "International Review" program presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] American President Reagan is expected to put forward some allegedly new initiatives on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe at the present session of the UN General Assembly.

Much is already being written and said about this, both in the United States itself and in West Europe. Official meetings are even being held between NATO representatives -- in Brussels, for example. The new U.S. proposals are being kept secret, but nonetheless one can form some idea about them, since some speeches and commentaries say that the new U.S. initiative will be just a development of the past proposals of the United States, that is, the zero and intermediate options. Well, the intermediate option, just like the zero option, is well known to everyone. The United States would like to deploy its own nuclear missile weaponry in Europe, in addition to the British and French missiles already here. In short, it is just the same old claims to military supremacy. The meetings last week between the leaders of the West European countries also confirm that hardly anything is changing in the position of the American side at the talks in Geneva.

British Prime Minister Madame Thatcher visited Bonn. She met FRG Chancellor Kohl. Adherence to Washington's militarist policy was once again confirmed at these talks, and it was restated that both Britain and West Germany will begin to deploy the American missiles before the end of this year. As if to demonstrate to all her indomitable and warlike spirit, Madame Thatcher clambered into the cockpits of warplanes and posed for the television cameras in the turrets of tanks.

Italian Premier Craxi has also hastened to assure Washington that nothing has changed in the plans to deploy U.S. missiles. This was also done during meetings with the West German chancellor. Washington's Western allies are demonstrating solidarity. It is worth recalling the President Reagan's letter to the Italian prime minister, because in this letter he partially explains his so-called new initiative: It stresses that the Soviet Union's request that the nuclear weapons of Britain and France be taken into account in the talks in Geneva is absolutely unacceptable to the United States. Yet this is the main question at the Geneva talks. Reagan is thereby again ruling out the possibility of any progress at the talks.

This confirms that the United States is striving not to achieve an accord, but rather to continue to sabotage the talks in order to justify the NATO plans to deploy the new American missiles in Western Europe by the end of the present year. But there is a possiblity for extricating the Geneva talks from the deadend. It needs only for the Reagan administration to study seriously the Soviet proposals, which would help lead to a reduction in nuclear arms. These proposals were again talked of in Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's reply to a group of West German parliamentarians.

If the U.S. side heeded the voice of reason and justice, it would be possible to reduce the nuclear arsenal in West Europe threefold. The Soviet Union is ready to retain exactly the same number of medium range missiles as Britain and France have. The Soviet Union is ready to go considerably further: It proposes a qualitative and quantitative freeze of all nuclear arms. It proposes an end to testing all nuclear warheads and the means for their delivery. It is well known that our country is also ready for Europe to be completely freed of all types of nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical.

The American President once again advocated the infamous zero option, which is unacceptable to the Soviet Union since it's meant to get the Soviet Union to disarm unilaterally. In his new wording of the option President Reagan proposes that the Soviet Union cut back its nuclear force globally as a condition for a certain reduction in the nuclear missiles of NATO. He reaffirmed plans to site Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe next September as scheduled. President Reagan failed to come up with any practical proposals despite earlier expectations of the General Assembly that the United States would make a step forward towards nuclear disarmament in Europe.

According to a Radio Moscow analyst, his speech was rather meant for propaganda, as were his stereotype attacks on the Soviet Union. The President again used the incident involving the South Korean plane, sent by Washington into Soviet airspace on a spying mission, for insinuations against the Soviet Union.

'Hypocritical Concern' for Peace

LD261829 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] New York September 26 TASS -- Addressing the 38th session of the United Nations General Assembly today, U.S. President Reagan feigned regret that "the use of violence for political gain has become more, not less, widespread" in the last decade.

These words of regret, strange as it may seem, came from the leader of a power which, even according to U.S. data, has used armed force or threatened to use force against other states and nations in a bid to achieve its imperialist aims on at least 215 occasions since World War II. In the past six years alone, the United States resorted to armed actions or threats to use force as many as 38 times.

Reagan spoke about being concerned that also "today in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Middle East and the northern Pacific the weapons of war shatter the security of peoples who live there, endanger the peace of neighbours, and create even more arenas of confrontation between the great powers". During the past year alone, he said, violent conflicts have occurred in the hills around Beirut, the deserts of Chad and Western Sahara, and in the mountains of El Salvador.

It will not be irrelevant to remind the people in this connection of who engineered those conflicts and widely used the weapons of war for imperialist hegemonistic gains.

At a time when the U.S. President is trying before the representatives of the international community, who have gathered in New York, to pass for a peace-maker, people in Beirut suburbs are picking up the bodies of those killed by shells fired from the armada of U.S warships amassed off Lebanese shores. On September 19 alone the missile cruiser "Virginia" and the destroyer "John Rogers" fired 368 shells at Lebanese populated localities.

These barbarous actions of U.S. "peace-makers" bring to mind the U.S. military's bloody crimes in South East Asia, where millions of people fell victim to U.S. aggression. Today, too, civilians are being killed in Kampuchea after explosions of shells, bearing the trademark "Made in U.S." and fired from the territory of Thailand, which the United States has converted into its military bridgehead in Indochina and a depot of modern arms. Hard at work to put together an aggressive military alliance between Japan, South Korea and itself, Washington is moving latest military hardware and weapons into these countries. Hundreds of nuclear shells, mines and bombs are stockpiled at storage facilities in South Korean territory.

The entire Asian Continent is enmeshed in a web of U.S. military bases, which prevent the defusion of international tension and the establishment of good-neighbourly relations. There are dozens of such bases in Japan, the Philippines, Australia and islands in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. These bases are being modernised, fortified and turned into staging areas for the "Rapid Deployment Force" despite persistent protests by the peace-loving people of the states, in which they are located.

The undeclared war against Nicaragua, which was inspired and is being directed by the United States, is assuming an increasingly dangerous scope. In El Salvador and Honduras U.S. advisers are teaching Somozist cutthroats to kill Nicaraguan civilians with U.S. arms solely because the latter have opted for a path the White House does not like. A high-ranking U.S. official told NEWSWEEK magazine that U.S. troops had already left their footprints in Chile and Guatemala and would now like to make it clear to Salvadorans and Nicaraguans that law was determined by force and power.

The U.S. is vigorously conducting this policy of military interference, pressure and blackmail also in Africa. It is supplying the Habre regime in Chad with most effective types of arms, including latest anti-aircraft missiles, anti-tank weapons, aircraft, tanks and radar equipment. Hundreds of Western mercenaries have been moved into that country, an operation also funded by the U.S. This is how the Washington administration is trying to preserve a regime it likes.

It is owing to U.S. support, including military support, that the South African regime of apartheid, which has been condemned by the entire world community, continues to exist in the south of Africa.

President Reagan's hypocritical concern about the destinies of peace, which was expressed today from the high rostrum of the United Nations, was, therefore, in fact an attempt to cover up the true, aggressive essence of U.S. imperialism -- the main culprit responsible for the relentless growth of international tension and the arms race in the world.

Geneva Talks Made 'Rougher'

LD262256 Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary 1630 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The general political debate began today at the session of the UN General Assembly. The first speaker was Reagan, the President of the United States.

The American propaganda organs, for several days already, have been making noises about the statement in which the so-called new proposals concerning the European nuclear missiles are set forth. As it has become clear, the basis of the proposals continues to be the infamous zero option, which seeks the unilateral disarmament zero option, which seeks the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union and the achievement of military superiority by the United States and NATO. Washington continues to see the deployment of its medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe as its main objective. The American side just as before, is not ready to take into account the nuclear weapons of NATO members Great Britain and France in considering the European balance of power.

In connection with the Reagan speech, observers note that the new proposals only make the going rougher at the Geneva talks. Taking everything into account, the impression is that the U.S. Government is not willing to negotiate seriously and does not endeavor to achieve positive results.

UN TO SEE U.S. MOVES FROM 'COLD' TO 'HOT WAR'

LD261922 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The general policy discussion has begun at the UN General Assembly. Here is a news commentary by Aleksandr Zholkver, political observer of Central Television and All-Union Radio:

All the problems of the modern world as well as the positions of states and governments on the most important problems of the day are up for discussion in all their diversity at the assembly.

In the current complex international situation the Soviet Union has come to the world community forum with a broad program for averting nuclear war, strengthening universal peace and establishing good relations and mutually advantageous cooperation between all states. These are not just good wishes but absolutely specific proposals. On the eve of the General Assembly session our country put forward new and important initiatives. Among them special attention is to be paid to the proposals set out in the reply by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov to the Social Democratic deputies of the FRG Bundestag.

The USSR proposes a freeze, both quantitative and qualitative, on all nuclear weapons. We propose that a stop be put to all tests of nuclear munitions as well as new sorts and types of methods for delivering nuclear weapons. In order to avert the threat of nuclear conflict in the most dangerous area of confrontation between the military groupings, the Soviet Union has proposed ridding Europe of all nuclear weapons, or at least reducing nuclear arsenals there by a factor of three. As for the missiles reduced in the European part of the country, the USSR agrees to destroy them. The USSR has also proposed that the matter of preventing the proliferation of the arms race into space also be included in the agenda of the current UN General Assembly session. Space must be used only for peaceful purposes.

But what did the United States bring to the session? With increasing frequency the U.S. ruling circles are moving from cold war to hot war. It was clearly with espionage purposes that it sent an aircraft into USSR airspace. U.S. warships are firing on Lebanon; aircraft produced in the United States are bombing Nicaragua. The United States is also waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan. And Washington if forging ahead with its military preparations: Preparations are going ahead at an accelerated rate for deploying new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe. Literally on the eve of the General Assembly session the U.S. Administration was trying to persuade Congress to adopt record allocations for the production of new strategic missiles and bombers, chemical and space weapons.

And after all that President Reagan still dares to assert that his administration places the ideas of peace at the center of its policy. No, it places there ideas of military superiority and world domination. At the UN session our country will expose this course, which is dangerous for all mankind, and will consistently advocate the interests of universal peace.

NONALIGNED MOVEMENT HOLDS MEETING AT UN

LD270724 Moscow TASS in English 0714 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] New York September 27 TASS -- A plenary meeting of the member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement has been held at the U.N. Headquarters, with representatives of 120 countries, international and national liberation organisations participating.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India, chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement, emphasized that the peoples of the whole world follow with concern the deterioration of the international situation brought about by the undermining of the process of detente, by the revival of cold war, and by the emergence of new seats of tension. The world encounters the frenzy of the nuclear arms race which threatens the very foundations of peace. She said the 38th session of the U.N. General Assembly must therefore become a substantial contribution by all the peoples to the search for peace and to achieving disarmament.

Indira Gandhi pointed out that the struggle for general and complete disarmament, without which lasting and durable peace on earth is inconceivable, remains the principal goal fo the non-aligned countries.

President Spiros Kiprianou of Cyprus, speaking on behalf of the European group of the movements member-countries, said that to struggle for peace is one of major tasks of the Non-aligned Movement. We support all peace initiatives aimed at consolidating international detente, at ending the arms race, and at counteracting the policy of stockpiling nuclear arsenals. We reaffirm our adherence to these goals and principles which were set out in the Final Act of the Helsinki conference and that have found a further development in the recently-concluded Madrid meeting.

Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the guiding council of the National Reconstruction Government of Nicaragua, specially touched upon U.S. imperialism's intrigues in the Caribbean and in Central America. The clouds of massive military intervention on the part of the USA, which has conceived an intention to stifle the Nicaraguan revolution and in neighbouring El Salvador to save the rotten regime of the junta by political and military means, do not disperse over the region, he pointed out. The events in Central America, he said, cannot but cause serious concern among non-aligned countries.

A rebuff to the aggressive course of the U.S. Administration, which stands in the way of the peoples aspiration for freedom and independence and which encourages the racists and Zionists criminal actions, was issued in a speech by Zehdi at-Terzi, permanent observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization at the United Nations, who took the floor on behalf of national-liberation movements. He emphasized that the non-aligned countries firmly come out in favour of Namibia's independence, elimination of the apartheid regime in the Repbulic of South Africa, and the exercise by the Arab people of Palestine of its inalienable rights, including the right to the establishment of an independent state of its own.

TASHKENT HOSTS AFRO-ASIAN WRITERS CONFERENCE

Greetings From Andropov

LD261652 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 26 Sep 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The seventh conference of the Afro-Asian Writers Association opened in Taskkent today at the Lenin Palace of Friendship of the Peoples of the USSR. Greetings from Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov to the participants in the conference were received with prolonged applause. The greetings were read out by Comrade Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee.

[Begin Rashidov video recording] I cordially congratulate the participants in the seventh conference of the Afro-Asian Writers Association who have gathered in Tashkent on the 25th anniversary of that organization.

Great positive changes have taken place in Asia and Africa over the past 25 years. Independent states have developed on the ruins of the imperialist colonial system which are playing an increasingly notable role in world politics. We in the Soviet Union know and value highly the work of your association and its contribution to the overall struggle by progressive forces for national and social liberation, peace and mutual understanding among peoples. The works of Asian and African writers actively promote the awakening of the working people's consciousness and the strengthening of thie international solidarity.

Your conference is taking place at an extremely complicated and difficult time when, through the fault of imperialism, the international situation has become sharply exacerbated and the threat of a nuclear catastrophe has grown. The unprecentedly intensive militarist preparations of the United States and NATO are accompanied by attacks against the forces of peace, democracy and national independence. The big stick policy against the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America is once again playing a leading role. That is why today there is no greater or more important task for mankind than preventing nuclear war, curbing the senseless arms race and putting obstacles in the path of imperialist aggressive aspirations.

We proceed from the premise that it is possible through the concerted efforts of people of good will to uphold peace and to channel the resources of contemporary civilization into meeting the vital needs of millions of people and eliminating the disgraceful consequences of the colonial past. The writer's civic duty demands that he take an active part in the struggle to implement these lofty aims. I am sure that questions of the struggle for peace, progress and the independence of peoples will be the focus of attention of your conference, too, and that your writing talents will continue to serve the noble ideals of mankind. I wish you great success in your social, literary and creative work, and personal happiness. [Signed] Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov. [end video recording]

On behalf of those present, Comrade Rashidov expressed profound gratitude to Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov for the high assessment given to the work of the Afro-Asian Writers Association and all its numerous group organizations, and for his cordial good wishes.

Rashidov Addresses Conference

LD261340 Moscow TASS in English 1243 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Tashkent September 26 TASS -- "25 years ago, having met in Tashkent for our constituent conference, we believed that the movement of Afro-Asian writers was in for a great and glorious future", said alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan Sharaf Rashidov, speaking here at the opening of the seventh conference of Asian and African writers.

"Marking our jubilee, we can now say with full ground: Yes, we are in for a great future, but we have also a glorious past -- our creative accomplishments, our successes in the struggle against ideological adversaries, a wealth of experience of many-sided cooperation".

"Books and plays, films and songs created by writers, participants in the movement of Afro-Asian writers, these are a only aesthetic values of a lasting significance. [sentence as received] These are the mighty spiritual force which awakens the conscience of the masses and which organizes them for the battle against the dark forces of imperialism and reaction, against all types and forms of racial and national oppression", the speaker stressed.

"Exclusively great is the role of Afro-Asian writers in the progressive changes and transformations that took place in the world. Their creative and social endeavours merged with revolutionary-democratic and national-liberation movement of the popular masses in all continents".

The role and significance of the writer's word, literature as a whole, is immeasurably on the rise now in the 1980's, marked with a new unprecedented aggressiveness of the ultra-reactionary forces headed by American imperialism, the aggressiveness which is directed against countries of the socialist community, against independent Asian, African and Latin American states", stressed Sharaf Rashidov. "There is no task more important now for the man-of-letters, in whatever language he writes, for the Afro-Asian writers' movement as a whole than to stop the instigators of a new war. Uncompromising and selfless struggle against the danger of a thermonuclear war, against imperialism and neocolonialism, from which this danger comes to the peoples, is the only possible civic and professional stand of any artist who lives by the thought of man, of his native people and of the whole of mankind".

Mongolia's Tsedenbal Sends Greetings

LD261713 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Tashkent September 26 TASS -- Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and president of the Presidium of the the Great People's Hural, has sent cordial congratulations on the 25th anniversary of the Association of Writers of Asia and Africa to the Tashkent conference of Afro-Asian writers.

"Mongolia thinks highly of the vigorous activities of your association, representing the broadly-based and democratic movement of progressive writers and cultural workers of Asia and Africa," the congratulatory message said. "It is making a weighty contribution to the mutual enrichment and advancement of national literatures, the improvement of mutual understanding among nations, the defence of world peace, and the struggle to remove the danger of world thermonuclear catastrophe."

"Let me express confidence that the forum of writers of Asian and African countries will mark another, important landmark in noble efforts to mobilise the creative intelligentsia and the entire public of Asian and African countries to the decisive struggle to ensure peace and international security," Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal said.

USSR GREETS UNESCO CONFERENCE IN MINSK

LD270927 Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Moscow September 27 TASS -- The Soviet Government has sent a message of greetings to the participants in the first international UNESCO congress of biospheric sanctuaries, now meeting in Minsk, the capital of Belorussia. They are discussing topical tasks facing mankind in preservation of nature and rational use of natural resources.

Broad international cooperation, which pools the efforts of scientists and specialists in that important sphere, makes it possible to resolve not only professional tasks but also promotes better mutual understanding between states with different social systems, and strengthens friendship between nations, the message runs.

Now that at the guilt [as received] of imperialist forces huge natural and manpower resources are wasted for the arms race, which leads mankind to the real danger of a nuclear catastrophe, to the danger of destruction of nature and all living on earth, it is the duty of every sober-minded person, primarily scientists, to wage struggle to prevent a nuclear conflagration on our planet.

Therefore the struggle for environmental protection in our disquieting times is inseparable from the struggle for preserving peace, for ending the arms race, for channelling the means, now used for military purposes, for the noble aims of creation.

UPI PROPAGANDA 'MASTERPIECE' ON REAGAN VOA TALK

LD270112 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Last Saturday President Reagan made his weekly radio report from the Voice of America headquarters. This somewhat unusual departure from standard proceedings stimulated much comment, including one wire service story, the subject of this note from the editor:

According to UPI Moscow correspondent (?John Irons), President Reagan's VOA performance was a smash success in the USSR. Playing a nimble game of cat and mouse with the Soviets, Reagan scored his first point by keeping the VOA broadcast top secret up until the last moment. This, said the UPI copy, prevented the Russians from increasing the jamming.

Quoting an unnamed Muscovite the UPI story hurries to inform one and all that the broadcast was nevertheless, and I quote, as usual heavily jammed, unquote. This particular Muscovite, however, happens to be a longtime VOA listener, so he was able to understand Reagan's remarks despite the jamming, says Mr (?Irons). And guess what the longtime listener said? Or rather, don't bother trying. Just listen to this verbatim quote: The certainty with which Reagan spoke made it clear that the Korean plane was not on a spy mission, he said.

Isn't that truly wonderful? Here was this poor Muscovite trying to find his way through the maze of the plane incident, seeking for the truth, groping as it were in the dark and then, lo and behold, the certainty in President Reagan's voice pierces the heavy jamming with which the Soviets attempt to smother that beacon of truth the VOA, and our Muscovite sees the light. Now, finally, he knows -- the plane was not a spy plane.

We solemnly congratulate the UPI on this masterpiece of propaganda and humbly admit we've yet much to learn.

BUSH'S VIENNA SPEECH 'FOREST OF SLANDER'

PM271003 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Sep 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Melon Sturua "Rejoinder": "Blazing Bush"]

[Text] At the present time a kind of competition is going on between U.S. statesmen and politicians, for the title of champion of anti-Sovietism. The competition is fierce and reminiscent of a hand-to-hand fight. It is not surprising, bearing in mind the climate of hysteria reigning in Washington at present, especially after the spectacular failure of the South Korean Boeing's espionage mission. It is worth noting that those denizens of Washington's corridors of power who are "suspected" of liberalism among inveterate reactionaries are especially zealous in their anti-Sovietism. U.S. Vice President G. Bush is one of these people. And although there is as much liberalism in this gentleman's activities as there is water on the moon, he is nonetheless bending over backward to avoid disgracing himself and sullying his reputation as a dyed-in-the-wool anticommunist.

The latest example of this was Bush's 21 September report to the Austrian foreign policy society entitled "On U.S. Policy in Relation to the Countries of East and Central Europe." If it were a question of less serious things we might have supposed that Bush regaled the audience with tales from the Vienna woods.

Regrettably they were not tales, but fairytales -- an impenetrable forest of slander and incitement, lies and threats. The U.S. vice president, evidently getting lost himself in this forest, confused Central Europe with Central America and confused not only the geographical and political map of the world but the calendar of history too.

On the pretext of removing "any misunderstanding" in interpreting the decisions of the Yalta Conference and the Final Act of the Helsinki conference the blazing Washington visitor made a crude and unpardonable attempt to interfere in the socialist states' internal affairs, and equally crudely and unpardonably tried to drive a wedge between them in the name, naturally, "of a dream of an East Europe in which respect for human rights is the rule." Well, Mr Vice President, how about El Salvador and Honduras, for instance? It is hard even to find a fitting epithet to characterize the style of this Texan oilman's and ex-CIA director's speech when he shed crocodile tears, saying that, "European culture will not die out in the Eastern part of the continent" as long, of course, as its population bows to the American "Statue of Liberty."

As was to be expected, the newfound champion of "European culture" behaved like the most ordinary American huckster. He promised "rewards" (the quotation marks here indicate a quotation — M.S.) to those East Europeans who absorb the American way of life along with its chewing gum, and promised to use the big stick on those holdouts who prefer liberty and independence in the socialist and communist style.

It would, of course, have been amazing if the U.S. vice president had failed to mention in his report the South Korean Boeing saga. After dealing with East Europe's past and present and giving it a prescription for the future, Bush took the bull by the horns. Rather he got on his anti-Soviet hobbyhorse, or, to keep to the Texan style, his mustang. He was not original in his arguments or in his malice either. But in his hypocrisy -- let us give him his due — he nonetheless outdid some people. That is truly on the level of the labors of an anti-Soviet Hercules.

The most widespread form of Washington political gymnastics is standing the facts on their head. Bush demonstrated his achievements in this sphere in Vienna. He contended that "the implementation of the NATO decision to install new medium-range missiles will not mean an increase in the numbers of nuclear arms in Europe." Mr Vice President, you who held forth so eloquently on European civilization, do you really think that Europeans incapapable of elementary arithmetic?

Problems of the arms race were also stood on their head. Bush contended that "the Soviet Union is engaged on an unprecedented arms program." Yet a few days previously the American Congress itself adopted a budget for a truly unprecedented arms race, and did it using the South Korean Boeing saga to put pressure on the obdurate. (?Clearly Bush had this recent example in mind when, mistaking the socialist states for members of the American Congress, he tried to use the stick and carrot policy on them.)

Eastern wisdom says that even the most inveterate liar will speak the truth once in his life. Truth can also be found in Mr Bush's Vienna report. "The peoples' desire for peace is unlimited," he said. Yes, this is undoubtedly so. This is why unbounded cynicism, unbounded anti-Soviet and anticommunist propaganda, and Washington's unbounded attempts to set peoples and even whole continents against each other -- as is the case in Europe -- are ultimately doomed to ignominious failure. Nowadays people are increasingly disinclined to believe in the fairy tales about the Washington woods and their inhabitants.

WEINBERGER'S TRIP TO PRC, JAPAN EXAMINED

LD261320 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger has arrived in Beijing. ASSOCIATED PRESS notes that in reply to journalists' questions about why he is making the trip, the Pentagon boss confined himself to the tight-lipped remark: I was invited. AFP provides more information: At the center of the talks, it reports, will be, among other things, questions concerning the export of American technology capable of being used in the military industry. It is noteworthy that Weinberger will be spending 4 days in Beijing, one-third of the time allocated to a trip during which he also has to visit Hong Kong, Pakistan and Italy.

And he has already been to Japan. The day that he spent there was sufficient for him to meet members of the government, to demand that Japan's military expenditures be increased, and also to make a set of provocative statements whose purpose is to step up the activity of the militarist and revanchist forces in this country that advocate revising the results of World War II. Weinberger went so far as to assert that without the Japanese-American security treaty, against which the population of this country is actively demonstrating, the whole of Japan's territory would become an object for Soviet blackmail.

There you have it. And at the very time that all this gibberish was being uttered, another anti-Soviet military provocation was beginning within the 100-mile limits of the Japanese archipelago: major Japanese-American exercises, as the agency puts it. Some 30,000 servicemen and hundreds of aircraft and ships, including atomic submarines and an aircraft carrier, are taking part in them. The object of the exercises is to work out joint operations, including the blockading of international straits in the Far East. However the specter of the Soviet threat, which Weinberger was raising in Tokyo, has not deceived the public of that country. Large antiwar demonstrations are taking place in the major ports and cities, the participants in which are demanding that the maneuvers be canceled, and that the Japanese-American security treaty, which is acquiring an ever more dangerous character, be abrogated.

BUDGET REPORTED TO INCREASE MILITARY OVERSEAS

PM261532 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Sep 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS correspondent report: "Billions for Weapons"]

[Text] New York, 20 Sep -- Continuing its course of stepping up the arms race and exacerbating the international situation, the Reagan administration intends to spend hundreds of billions of dollars in the next few years on the production of new weapons and the expansion of the U.S. military presence in different parts of the world. Convincing evidence of this is provided by the Pentagon's draft budget for the U.S. Defense Department for 1985 and subsequent fiscal years, which has been drawn up taking into account the United States' long-term military tasks.

According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the basic provisions of this document form the foundation of secret memoranda distributed by U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense P. Thayer to commanders of the branches of the armed services. According to these memoranda the newspaper writes, the Pentagon plans to increase the numerical strength of the U.S. Armed Forces by almost 60,000 men by 1989 and to accelerate their re-equipment. In this connection, in fiscal 1985-1989 it is planned to increase the Army budget from $75 billion to $106 billion, the Navy budget from $98 billion to $149 billion, and the Air Force Budget from $106 billion to $137 billion.

By the early nineties, as the memoranda make clear, the United States should have a new nuclear submarine in service, and the B-52 strategic bombers will have been replaced by the more modern B-1, armed with cruise missiles. As early as next fiscal year the Air Force should receive its first antisatellite missiles.

According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the Pentagon also hopes to significantly reinforce its Southern Command, which is responsible for the carrying out of operations in Central and South America, and to expand the U.S. military presence in the Near East and the Indian Ocean.

USIA BID FOR 'SHARP INCREASE' IN FUNDING HIT

PM261319 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Sep 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS correspondent M. Beglov dispatch: "Stepping Up Subversive Activity"]

[Text] Washington, 23 Sep -- Within the framework of "psychological warfare" against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, official Washington intends to sharply step up the activity of the U.S. subversive propaganda organs.

Addressing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, USIA director C. Wick bluntly declared that on President Reagan's accession to power "the USIA became a still more important partner of the administration in pursuing the foreign policy course." To coordinate all the White House's efforts in the anti-Soviet propaganda campaign, he reported, a "special planning group" has been set up under the U.S. National Security Council. It includes, in particular, the President's assistant for national security affairs, the secretary of defense, and the secretary of state.

Wick demanded that the senators increase appropriations to step up precisely those aspects of USIA activity which are part of the notorious "democracy and public diplomacy program" aimed at unceremonious and gross interference by the Washington administration in the internal affairs of sovereign states. It is proposed to double the volume of programs designed to indoctrinate the rising generation of other countries. "It is now planned to cover new states with these programs," the USIA chief declared. Wick's department intends to devote special attention to increasing the false anti-Soviet propaganda of the subversive VOA radio station. It is planned, in particular, to increase the volume of broadcasting in various national languages to countries such as, for example, Afghanistan, Turkey, and Iran. According to Wick, there will also be more frequent broadcasts of so-called editorials, in which the radio station dumps buckets of slander on the socialist countries without making any claims to "informativeness." In this connection Wick urged the legislators substantially to increase appropriations for the modernization of VOA. The Reagan administration has asked Congress for $54.8 million for this purpose in the next fiscal year, and for $200 million in Fiscal 1985.

Commenting on the USIA chief's speech, political commentators point out that the "CIA's branches" in West Europe -- Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe -- also play a key role in the "crusade" proclaimed by the Reagan administration against the forces of peace and socialism. J. Buckley, their director, admitted recently that the administration is seeking a sharp increase in the amount of funds allocated to them, which will total $111. 5 million in Fiscal 1984. A new propaganda mouthpiece is now being created at the USIA that will broadcast to Cuba. This subversive radio station is being granted $10 million for the first stage alone.

SOVIET ADMIRAL ASSAILS U.S. NAVAL DOCTRINE

PM241945 Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 37, 12-18 Sep 83 (Signed to Press 14 Sep 83) pp 2-3, 6

[Article "From Foreign Press Materials" by Doctor of Naval Sciences Professor Vice Admiral K.A. Stalbo, winner of the USSR State Prize and honored scientific figure of the RSFSR, under the rubric "Military Observer's Notes": "U.S. Policy and Aggression in the World Ocean. Our Observer on Present-Day U.S. Naval Doctrine"; first paragraph is editorial introduction; passages in uppercase published in boldface]

[Text] Mankind's ties with the ocean, which first arose in very ancient times, constitute a major problem under modern conditions that is now examined in its ties with science, politics, economics, and armed struggle. The latter is undoubtedly an excess [izderzhka] on mankind's part, like all the wars which it has waged over the course of its history. But it is precisely about this aspect, as applied to American naval doctrine nowadays, that we would like to tell our readers.

In modern American foreign policy, as practice shows, the traditional diplomatic ways of resolving problems of international relations are increasingly being replaced by military-diplomatic or even simply military ways. Of course, this gross violation of the forms of ties which have evolved over the centuries among sovereign states -- a product of the U.S. position of strength policy -- demands definite readiness of the U.S. Armed Forces and the corresponding distribution of their groupings in various regions of the planet. And since almost the whole world has now been proclaimed a zone of U.S. interests, even now that there is no war it is hard to find a region of the ocean where warships of the U.S. Navy are not in a state of full readiness for combat operations.

This applies particularly to the "zones of instability," by which the U.S. leaders unequivocally mean a situation taking shape in a particular country when its people are attempting to escape from American diktat. The efforts of the White House, so its masters believe, can only be aided in these cases by the armed forces and, above all, by the Navy, which, in the Pentagon's opinion, is the most mobile and reliable force. Moreover, in struggles against small countries which do not have a maritime force it is the type of weapon in which the United States practically has a monopoly. Evidently by virtue of this, the Americans consider their navy "the mainstay and hope of the nation" and the "big stick" (these are all their assessments) which they use unhesitatingly to pacify or destroy people of a different mind.

This is why American aircraft carriers, battleships, and landing ships equally rush to the scene of events in order to wipe off the face of the earth "to the glory of America" a couple of coastal settlements or perhaps even a city, as was the case in Korea and Vietnam. Or to "influence" the minds and sentiments of voters, as was the case in Greece at the time of the 1967 fascist coup. In all such cases there appeared on the horizon the hulks of American aircraft carriers, from whose decks aircraft made threatening flights or began cruel bombing raids. To fulfill such functions and, above all, to participate in the world war for which it is preparing, the United States has created numerous multirole nuclear-powered submarines, aircraft stationed at bases, aircraft carriers, some of which are equipped with a nuclear power plant, helicopter carriers capable of landing airborn forces and conducting antisubmarine warfare, other antisubmarine and landing ships, and also missile cruisers equipped with antiship and antiaircraft homing cruise missiles, torpedoes, and helicopters.

Four battleships which have been in mothballs will be added to this armada today. These forces are from various formations of an operational purpose and an offensive nature capable of making strikes against marine targets and against targets on the territory of the opposite side. They also include a strong grouping of special troops consisting of several divisions of Marines. The "soldiers of the sea," as they are called in America, are privileged troops. They are a mobile expeditionary corps which always forms part of the first echelon of invasion forces and even does police service on American warships. This mercenary host now constitutes the largest U.S. gendarme formation, designed to "instill order" inside and outside the country.

An example? The U.S. Marines have invaded Nicaragua 10 times, and in 7 of these cases the legitimate governments in that country have been overthrown. It was at the hands of the Marines that Somoza, later overthrown by the revolutionary people, was planted in Nicaragua.

When President Reagan announced his "program for a 600-warship navy," he had in mind, above all, those forces called "general-purpose forces." It is precisely these that make up all the U.S. Navy's forward groupings deployed in the waters of the Eastern Hemisphere. It is these that are constantly showing the flag in foreign states' territorial waters and holding "exercises" off the coasts of those countries that must be returned to the bosom of American policy. It is these, as history shows, that fire while the diplomats are still shaking hands.

This whole "fire brigade" rushes about the world ocean from the Caribbean to the Persian Gulf and from the western shores of the American Continent to the Sea of Japan and Australia, displaying readiness to support any regime that can follow in the wake of White House policy and even, if necessary, to install the regime which it needs and which best accords with its aggressive concepts. Another impressive grouping consisting of 19 ships of the U.S. Navy has now been detached from that brigade. It has been sent to the coasts of Nicaragua and El Salvador. It includes the aircraft carriers "Coral Sea" and "Ranger" and the battleship "New Jersey."

What does this squadron want in the ocean? Officially -- to hold exercises. But let us note the suspicious duration of this "exercise" -- 9 months. An unprecedented time! The word "exercise" must not mislead the reader. Of course, it is a question here of the use of military force. Therefore, we will not be surprised if the events which occurred in the recent past in another part of the world -- in the Gulf of Tonkin, off the coasts of Vietnam -- are "suddenly" repeated in the Caribbean. At that time a similar grouping of U.S. warships provoked an armed conflict, as a result of which grounds were invented for the Americans to attack Vietnam. That was how a war which lasted 11 years began!

A similar situation can also be seen in the Mediterranean, where the U.S. 6th Fleet, from which a large grouping of ships headed by the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier "Eisenhower" has been sent to the shores of Libya, is once again trying to "have its say." These actions not only threaten sovereign Libya but also in fact widen the scale of imperialist interference in the events occurring in Chad.

Even a superficial analysis shows: "General-purpose forces comprised the indispensable and most active part of the aggressive groupings in the majority of the local wars unleashed by the United States in the postwar period." According to the data of the American Brookings scientific research institution, out of 215 instances when the U.S. Armed Forces have been used in conflicts and wars in the postwar period, the ground forces have been used 39 times, the Air Force 103 times, and the Navy 177 times!

The scale of this use is indicated by the following figures: 15 out of 17 American aircraft carriers and 6 out of 9 helicopter carriers participated in combat operations against the Vietnamese people. as well as approximately 90 percent (!) of other surface ships. The landing of a force in the Korean port of Inch' on was ensured by 300 warships(!). Now 11 aircraft carriers, more than 200 other surface ships, and approximately 1,600 naval combat aircraft are permanently deployed in the waters of the Eastern Hemisphere. The chief grouping here is in the East Atlantic and the Mediterranean. It numbers 175 ships (including 8 aircraft carriers), as well as 814 naval combat aircraft.

However, it is not these ships or the Marines, despite their numbers, that constitute the chief force of the U.S. Navy. The chief threat to peace, to mankind, and, undoubtedly, to the American people themselves is posed by Marine strategic nuclear groupings designed to make strikes against targets on the territory of the opposite side. Almost 30 years ago the White House adopted a policy of creating weapons of mass destruction. More and more attention was devoted to them. As a result, in a short time the United States created six modified versions of underwater strategic arms, each of which surpassed the previous one in terms of the missiles' range and accuracy, the yield of the charge, and the number of separate warheads. The proportion of sea-based missiles in the U.S. strategic arms system was also invariably increasing. It now stands at approximately 70 percent.

Such a high rate of development for these offensive strategic systems was only made possible because the White House gambled, above all, on the maritime direction of nuclear arms, which, some people there believe, possesses special properties such as undoubtedly greater viability than with ground launches and the possibility of varying the aerospace directions of strikes and the flight ranges of ballistic missiles.

Naturally, the U.S. underwater strategic nuclear system is not used in local wars and does not "extinguish fires" in "zones of instability." It is entrusted with more "serious" work. IT IS THE CHIEF MATERIAL FOUNDATION OF NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL IN PEACETIME AND A VERY IMPORTANT CONSTITUENT PART OF THE STRATEGIC MEANS OF WAGING NUCLEAR WAR. Tremendous strategic nuclear potential is concentrated in this system. The Americans have so blown up this direction of arms that they now take the city -- neither more or less -- as the unit for measuring their operational and strategic potential! In this connection, in addition to specious comparisons, they have invented a name for them: "city killers." In accordance with this criterion, the necessary number of missile-carrying submarines is determined, as the American press has repeatedly written, by the number of cities in the socialist community countries which would have to be destroyed in order to "do a good job" (I cite an American admiral).

I also wish to draw attention to the fact that whereas, for example, in the period of World War II the U.S. Navy was stronger than the fleet of any capitalist country, it now exceeds several times over the strength of the fleets of all the main Western countries put together. The United States has six times more nuclear-powered submarines, three times more aircraft carriers, and four times more cruisers than Western countries' navies. At the same time, nuclear-powered surface ships and large landing ships constitute part of the U.S. Navy alone. By this criterion, as well as by many others, the United States has already secured its leadership in the capitalist world.

Preparing for a new world war, the Americans are building not only the Navy but also its extensive infrastructure, whose basis is made up of approximately 1,500 different bases in 32 countries, including a considerable number of "unsinkable aircraft carriers" such as "Diego Garcia," "Okinawa," "Sicily," and others. In describing the modern U.S. Navy it must be noted that it, like the navies of all countries, is a definite product of the scientific and technical revolution, and therefore its qualitative aspect is nothing more than a variant of a stereotype which fits within the framework of the potential of world shipbuilding science. It is distinguished only by its quantitative aspect, which, if you compare it with the fleets of other capitalist states, is really impressive. But no more than that. As regards a comparison of the integral potential of the basic arms of the United States and the USSR, approximate equality exists here, as has repeatedly been stated in our press and as Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense, recently told the TASS correspondent in his replies.

In military matters there objectively exists a natural law which is expressed in the fact that the art of conducting combat operations depends, above all, on the state of the material means of armed struggle. It is natural that in the postwar period American military and naval theoreticians, as well as politicians, were concerned with creating modern foundations for using their missile, aircraft carrier, and nuclear fleet in the world ocean. This work was done with regard to the numerous "concepts" and "strategies" proclaimed by each new American president. But this is what is curious: Each new "strategy" rested on three immutable "leviathans" -- aggressiveness, anticommunism, and the paramount significance of the Navy as the dominant branch of the armed forces. In this connection the lion's share of the appropriations at the Pentagon's disposal was always allocated for its development. Doubts as to the Navy's significance arose only among the competing firms' emissaries who held seats in the Congress or the Senate. Representatives of the air wing of the U.S. military-industrial complex were always particularly active in this. However, this struggle amounted merely to polemics between "khaki" and "gray" [marengo], to use the Americans' expression. Therefore, in general, U.S. naval theory easily maneuvered in the thickets of numerous strategies from "rolling back communism" to "direct confrontation." In other words, from Truman to Reagan.

Of all the diverse postulates of postwar American naval doctrine, we will draw readers' attention to just two: to the THEORY OF SUPREMACY AT SEA and to the MYTH ABOUT A SOVIET NAVAL THREAT, which are being pushed hard in the United States.

The U.S. Navy is only 200 years old. At the dawn of its existence it had to survive a number of serious failures and the shame of defeats. At any rate, in the first two Anglo-American wars it was unable to resolve the tasks set it, and soon after the first Anglo-American war it altogether ceased to exist, as almost one-third of the ships were captuerd by the British, five ships perished, and the remainder were destroyed by their crews or sold. The Navy had put up such a bad show that the U.S. Administration declared it unnecessary. Therefore, America did not have a Navy for some time. Events repeated themselves in the second Anglo-American war. In 1814 the British were able totally to blockade American ships in their bases, landed a force in Chesapeake Bay, and captured Washington, totally destroying both the Capitol and the White House.

It was evidently then that the Americans felt the value of supremacy at sea and adopted the idea themselves. The fleet became an indispensable and important part of their armed forces.

Let us note that the term "supremacy at sea" in itself is not new. Supremacy at sea can be, say, in a region of operations, as happened, for example, in the Pacific during World War II. It is the "concern" of admirals to ensure this supremacy. However, when it is extended to the whole (pantallas) (Footnote) (the aggregate of the planet's watery environment) -- and this is now the main thing in the American concept -- then this "supremacy at sea" is the concern of politicians, who see in it the possibility of using all the oceans and seas for military and economic purposes, regardless of whether the enemy officers resistance or whether there is an enemy in that region at all.

Here are the most recent examples: At the ceremony for demothballing the battleship "New Jersey," President Reagan called for "military superiority" to be ensured so as to "gain access to all the world's oceans and control over the airspace, surface, and depths of the ocean." Nor does Defense Secretary Weinberger lag behind him: "Neither President Reagan nor I doubt that the U.S. Navy will rule the seas right up to the next century." And U.S. Navy Secretary Lehman argues in unison with them: "We must turn the Soviets into an isolated island, so that we possess the rest of the world, and for this the United States must have uncontestable superiority on the seas and be able to blockade the Russian Navy in USSR territorial waters."

These and similar ambitious statements are accompanied by a new naval arms race, by the further development of the system of bases in the world ocean, and by the movement to possible attack positions of large naval groupings such as, for example, the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean and the 7th Fleet in the West Pacific.

On analyzing the modern theory of U.S. supremacy at sea you see that it is traditionally associated with elaborations made in that sphere by American theoreticians back in the last century. Moreover, you notice that the present U.S. Administration simply repeats the views of its compatriot Mahan, a 19th-century naval theoretician, WHO LINKED THE IDEA OF AMERICAN SUPREMACY AT SEA WITH HIS COUNTRY'S GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, THE SIZE OF ITS TERRITORY, AND THE NATIONAL CHARACTER OF THE PEOPLE. Reagan, for example, bluntly states that the Soviet Union has no right to have a navy, as its geographic conditions do not demand it (?!). In this way he tries to emphasize the exclusive right of the United States, which "occupies a certain geographic position," to create a naval force or, in other words, to wage an armed struggle in ocean theaters.

As regards the size of territory and its influence on problems of supremacy at sea, it is worth recalling that almost all the 200 wars which the United States has waged during its 200-year history have been aimed chiefly at expansion, at resolving the "problem of living space" and becoming a huge country which has enriched itself at the expense of neighbors and many overseas territories. Here the navy and its supremacy in zones of military operations have played a very important role.

And, finally, the third factor -- "the people's national character." It is a question here (I cite Rear Admiral Mahan) of "the abilities of the Yankees as a maritime nation to quickly assimilate other people's territories and the ability to use their entrepreneurial flair" (in other words, to "assimilate" the money lying in other people's pockets. Well, that is real American style!).

Need it be said that all these starting points of the American concept of supremacy at sea are very directly linked with the theory of geopolitics which was deemed criminal at the Nuremberg trial? Incidentally, when the people at Nuremberg were sorting through the archives of the Hitlerite geopolitican K. Haushofer -- the chief author of the ideas of living space and the superiority of the Aryan race, who shot himself in fear of history and the peoples -- they discovered his notes, which stated that THE GERMAN FASCIST THEORY OF GEOPOLITICS HAS MUCH IN COMMON WITH THE AMERICAN ONE IN TERMS OF ITS AIMS AND METHODS OF OPERATION.

I think that not even such a brief examination of some foundations of the modern American concept of supremacy at sea leaves any doubt as to its anti-Soviet, reactionary, and extremely aggressive essence. And if we add to it the constantly escalating naval arms race and the unfolding of the ideological war, it will become clear that all this is an undisguised challenge to the cause of peace and detente and a direct exit onto the road of war.

Of course, the Soviet Union cannot remain aloof from this development of world events in ocean theaters of military operations. We have been forced to take countermeasures aimed at ensuring the socialist community countries' security. There is one way out here -- to confront the aggressor with the need to react to the very situation which he has created in the world as a result of his efforts for an unrestrained buildup of all his arms. We cannot allow our security and our allies' security to be jeopardized. This is why the Soviet Union has taken the necessary measures to curb the arms race. However, not having met with understanding from the United States and NATO, it has been forced to take the path of countermeasures. We have created a mighty ocean-going nuclear missile Navy capable of terminating the aggressive designs and actions of the U.S. Navy and ensuring the country's defense from ocean directions. The Americans' undivided sway in the world ocean has been shaken. The customary impunity, lack of control, and freedom of action have vanished into the past.

It was then -- when the aggressor had virtually been seized by the arm and when a balance of potentials had arisen at sea -- that the myth of the Soviet military threat, which in general is not new, was pressed into services. The question arises: Who can be threatened by a fleet belonging to a state which has proclaimed peace the basis of its foreign policy? The American fleets, for example, are another matter -- what do they seek in the waters washing the Soviet Union's shores? Of course, the American naval commanders would like to see the victims of their aggression helpless, and their fleet operating with impunity in any part of the world ocean. But now that the Soviet Navy has taken to the ocean expanses, I repeat: the situation has changed. This is how the Americans themselves evaluate it: "The Mediterranean is no longer what it used to be," Rear Admiral W. Martin says. "You used to be able to do whatever you liked there. Not now...." However, our Navy is resolving quite different tasks to the American Navy in the world ocean: It threatens no one. Predatory aims are alien to it. But it is a strong strategic factor in curbing imperialist aggression.

The myth of the Soviet naval threat, which the Americans have pressed into service, is nothing more than a new attempt by militarists to influence world public opinion, a healthy proportion of which is opposed to the senseless squandering of many states' national revenues on the arms race. It is also a form of exerting class influence on events in the world in the interests of militarists and militarism. It is a screen, hiding behind which it is easier to "churn out" thousands of missiles and hundreds of ships and to capture new bases.

And then the United States simply fears for the state of affairs regarding its supremacy in the world ocean, which, as we have already pointed out, is the cornerstone of its policy of achieving the dominant position in the world.

HARRIMAN CALLS FOR IMPROVED U.S.-USSR TIES CITED

PM261544 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Sep 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Call to Reason"]

[Text] Washington, 20 Sep -- Averell Harriman, former U.S. ambassador to the USSR and one of the most senior American politicians, and his wife, Pamela Harriman, have called on the Reagan administration to adopt a policy of improving American-Soviet relations and securing the speediest conclusion of nuclear arms limitation agreements.

Addressing the women's national democratic club, A. and P. Harriman pointed out that the USSR and the United States "have a common enemy -- the threat of nuclear war" and that it is only "by means of preserving peace that the United States and its allies will be able to ensure their real security." We live on the same planet as the USSR, they emphasized, and both the United States and the Soviet Union have enough potential to destroy each other. Recalling the meeting they had with Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, during their recent trip to Moscow, the Harrimans voiced the conviction that the prevention of nuclear war accords with both sides; vital interests.

Coming out against the use of the ballyhoo raised in the United States over the South Korean aircraft incident to fuel tension in Soviet-American relation, A. and P. Harriman pointed out that, on the contrary, that incident attests to "the need to strive for more stable relations, particularly in the military sphere." Sharply criticizing the "arguments" of opponents of improving the political atmosphere between the USSR and the United States, they declared that the talks on limiting nuclear arms accord, above all, with "the vitally important national interests of the United States itself and are not some 'favor' to the USSR," and ending the talks would be "an extremely dangerous alternative, as it would lead to an increased threat of war."

W. COAST CANADIAN DOCKERS REJECT USSR BOYCOTT

PM270829 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Sep 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Canada: Dockers Refuse"]

[Text] Ottawa, 25 Sep -- Dockers on Canada's west coast have decisively rejected attempts to involve them in anti-Soviet actions.

The CANADIAN TRIBUNE paper reports that Don Garcia, chairman of the Canadian section of the Amalgamated Union of Port Longshoremen and Warehousemen, did not give in to pressure and rejected the appeal by a U.S. State Department spokesman to boycott Soviet ships docking in Vancouver. Garcia, the paper writes, stated that Canadian dockers have a contractual obligation to service Soviet ships and will carry it out.

CAMPAIGNERS' ACCESS TO NSC PAPERS ON IRAN CITED

LD260721 Moscow TASS in English 0633 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Washington September 26 TASS -- There is new evidence that Ronald Reagan's people during the 1980 election campaign were not only engaged in stealing President Jimmy Carter's election documents, but also had access to confidential papers of the U.S. National Security Council.

According to a UPI report, quoting sources within a Congress subcommittee which is probing into these illegal machinations, there is evidence that Reagan's people obtained various documents of the council whose activity is shrouded in secrecy. According to the UPI, they possess National Security Council reports on the situation in Iran following the taking of American hostages in that country. Judging by American press reports, this question was of particular interest for Reagan's election committee since its strategists feared a pre-election "surprise" from the Carter administration, that is some unexpected move by the White House on releasing the hostages, which could sharply raise the prestige and popularity of Carter before the electors.

CONGRESSMAN'S CRITICISM OF UN FUNDING REBUFFED

LD262302 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Joining in the malicious, provocative attacks being made by the Reagan Administration on the UN organization are its reactionary proteges on Capital Hill. Proof is this is the openly impudent, brazen-faced words by a Republican, Broomfield, member of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, published by UPI. Proposing that the UN should remove itself as fast as possible from New York he states that this would relieve Americans from costly and never-ending inconveniences connected with the fact that the international organization is situated there. Feigning indignation over the fact that the U.S. contribution to the UN fund was $171 million in 1983, he remains silent on the well-known fact that the UN headquarters' situation in New York has been one of the most important financial sources for this very large U.S. city, which has been suffering an acute financial crisis for a long time.

WEINBERGER, ZHANG DISCUSS MILITARY ISSUES

PM271041 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Sep 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Talks in Beijing"]

[Text] Beijing September 27 -- Visiting U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and Defense Minister Zhang Aiping of the People's Republic of China held talks today. XINHUA news agency reported that "the sides exchanged opinions on issues of mutual interest in a friendly and warm atmosphere."

The American NBC television network reported that "Weinberger had declared today that, in the U.S. Administration's opinion, the modernization of Chinese Armed Forces and the enhancement of the Chinese economy meets U.S. interests. The atmosphere of the visit had indicated that U.S.-Chinese military links could develop into something bigger than simply the acquisition of U.S. technology."

AMITY ASSOCIATION COMMEMORATES CHINESE ARTIST

OW251015 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] The Central Board of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association sent a message of condolences to its counterpart the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association commemorating the 30th anniversary of the death of Xu Beihong, an outstanding Chinese painter. The anniversary falls on 26 September.

The message pointed out: The Soviets remember Xu Beihong as a patriot, an internationalist and a good friend of theirs who maintained close ties with Soviet artists. He created a new school of painting by combining the achievements of Chinese traditional painting and European realistic painting.

BRIEFS

PRC-USSR BOOK TRADE RESUMES -- After the break of many years, the Soviet Union and China are reopening their trade in books. The Chinese agency in charge of the export and import of printed matter has chosen over 300 works of literature issued lately in various Soviet republics. The agreement was reached at the recent fourth international book fair in Moscow. [Text] [Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 26 Sep 83 LD]

JAPAN REBUFFS SOVIET PROTEST OF AEROFLOT BAN

OW270119 Tokyo KYODO in English 0027 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Moscow Sept 26 KYODO -- The Soviet Union Monday protested Japan's ban on Aeroflot flights into Japan taken in retaliation for the Soviet downing of a South Korean airliner, but met a stinging rebuff, Japanese Embassy officials said.

In the first protest to Japan, the Soviet Foreign Ministry said the two-week ban, begun September 15, was illegal under the U.N. Charter and the 1966 Civil Aviation accord.

Calling the Japanese action unfriendly to the Soviet Union, the note verbale said the Soviet Government will reserve the rights to demand compensation for the losses incurred, Japanese officials said.

Japanese Minister Hisashi Kowada told the Soviet ministry the protest was unacceptable and charged the Soviet Union is trying to pass responsibility for the plane incident onto other countries.

The Japanese Government took the action based on international law, Kowada said.

The Korean plane was shot down by the Soviet Union near Sakhalin, north of Japan, on September 1, killing 269 people aboard.

MOSCOW HITS JAPAN BID TO JOIN UN FORCES

LD261909 Moscow World Service in English 1431 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] In a report by the Japanese news agency KYODO TSUSHIN Japan is to table a document before the United Nations proposing active Japanese involvement in UN peacekeeping operations. Commenting on this report a Soviet journalist specializing in international affairs, Viktor Vinogradov, writes this:

This document has been drafted on instructions of the Japanese Foreign Ministry and it points out that Japan must help the United Nations in its peacekeeping operations since that is the country's international obligation. It is clear from this document that Japan is ready to take part, for example, in the logistics, reconnaissance, policing, and patrolling operations by placing its troops at the disposal of the United Nations; so far Japan has been giving only financial support to UN peacekeeping forces. The point is that under the country's legislation, including its Constitution which proclaims rejection of war, Tokyo cannot send troops abroad. Apparently, for this reason the document makes a reservation that the views given in it are not an official government stand on the issue. But if this document does not really express the Japanese Government's views, why should the country's foreign minister -- a member of that government, that is -- hand over the document to the UN secretary general? And why did this document appear at all? The more so that its tabling in UN should not be regarded as a sign of change in the Japanese Government's stand, as Japanese Foreign Ministry officials have declared.

It is common knowledge that some quarters in Japan have long been making plans to take out their Self-Defense Forces onto the international scene. Japan's National Defense Board is already taking this step de facto, as under American pressure, it has dispatched Japanese naval and air force units to take part in multisided military exercises, Rimpac, which the Pentagon is holding in the central Pacific. However, Washington believes this is too little. It is urging Japan persistently to do so de jure, claiming the Japanese Constitution is weakening the country's defense capability.

A few days ago, in an interview for the Japanese newspaper YOMIURI, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said bluntly no restrictions should pose a threat to Japan's security. Undoubtedly, this issue was a major one during the discussions between the U.S. defense secretary and Japanese officials on his visit to Tokyo over the weekend. The government of Prime Minister Nakasone is rather willing to meet Washington's demands as well as those of the country's militaristic quarters. However, the Constitution blocks the way and so, not without prompting from the U.S. Administration which hates all these references to the Constitution, the dodging trick has been produced.

There are clear indications that the essence of this move is the following: Since the Japanese Government does not risk to cancel the Constitution articles banning this on its own initiative, it offers its services to the UN. Later, anything is possible. What if the UN accepts Japan's proposal and decides to use its troops in some point around the world by making the corresponding request? Having received such an official invitation, some Tokyo leaders might say that willy-nilly, since the UN wants it, the government has no right to refuse. And since the Constitution forbids this, it might be and even should be changed for the sake of the UN.

That is the dodging trick by which Tokyo apparently would like to reach its coveted aim to take out Japanese armed forces onto the international scene.

MONGOLIA'S TSEDENBAL ENDS VACATION IN USSR

LD262018 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Sep 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, general secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Presidium of the republic's Great People's Hural, who has been in the Soviet Union on vacation at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, left for home today.

PAKISTANI 'RUMORS' PART OF ANTI-AFGHAN 'CAMPAIGN'

LD232154 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 23 Sep 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] For several days the Western press has been spreading rumors from Islamabad about the violation of Pakistan's airspace by Afghan aircraft. These fabrications have been exposed by Yoresh, Afghanistan's deputy foreign minister. He stressed that the accusations leveled against Kabul are part of a planned propaganda campaign that is being directed from Washington. The aim of this campaign, Yoresh said, is to hamper talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan via the UN secretary general and to divert the world public's attention away from the undeclared war against the DRA, unleashed by the forces of imperialism and reaction, and from the grave internal political crisis that the Pakistan regime is itself experiencing.

The latest circumstances are, I think, particularly significant at the present moment. After all, General Ziaul Haq has encountered antigovernment demonstrations by broad opposition forces that are unprecedented during his rule, and he needs somehow to justify both the crisis being experienced by the regime and also the harsh struggle against the opposition. Obviously there is nothing simpler than to accuse neighboring Afghanistan of causing these difficulties. However, it is not mythical Afghan aircraft but the bands who have entrenched themselves in Pakistani territory that are aggravating the situation on the border between the two countries.

MARCOS GOVERNMENT 'IN CONTROL' DESPITE UNREST

Aquino Death Sparks Protests

PM270910 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Sep 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Correspondent Yu. Kovalenko dispatch under the rubric "Events Abroad -- the Philippines": "Unrest Continues"]

[Text] Manila -- Opposition-organized antigovernment demonstrations, whose participants are demanding the resignation of Philippine President F. Marcos, are continuing in Manila.

Police detachments using tear gas grenades broke up a 23 September demonstration in the Makati business district of the capital; there were several arrests. The demonstration was led by [Agapito] Butz Aquino, brother of eminent opposition figure and former senator Benigno Aquino, who was shot at Manila international airport on his return from the United States. His death sparked off mass antigovernment demonstrations.

General F. Ver, chief of staff of the Philippine Armed Forces, announced that henceforth all demonstrations held without the authorities' permission will be dispersed by the forces of law and order. Military and police detachments had been ordered to arrest demonstrators, F. Ver said. Meanwhile representatives of the authorities and the opposition have declared that they are striving to avert a repetition of the bloody skirmishes between the demonstrators and the police. Despite the unrest that has flared up observers consider that the government is in control of the situation in the country. The Manila paper BULLETIN TODAY, quoting opposition circles, notes that the demonstrations will continue right through 27 November -- B. Aquino's birthday.

The Manila papers, quoting American sources, say that despite the unrest and the mounting protests against the American military presence in the Philippines, U.S. President R. Reagan still intends to visit the Philippines at the beginning of November this year.

Outcome of Unrest Unpredictable

PM271032 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Sep 83 First Edition p 5

[Dmitriy Kosyrev article under the rubric "We Reply to a Reader": "What Is Happening in the Philippines"; "Reader M. Ninakov From Kazan Inquires About Current Events in the Philippines"]

[Text] The domestic political situation in this country, which covers more than 7,000 islands in Southeast Asia, has sharply deteriorated recently. Thus antigovernment demonstrations, in which, according to an AFP report, 300,000 people took part, were held in Manila 21 September. According to official figures 11 people were killed and more than 100 injured as a result of clashes with the police. Events of this kind are continuing and are now happening in other cities too -- despite the ban on demonstrations and despite the fact that troops and police are drawn up in the capital.

Unrest has in fact been increasing since the 21 August killing at Manila airport of opposition leader ex-senator Benigno Aquino, who had spent 3 years in exile. He was shot immediately on deplaning. The circumstances and motives behind the crime still remain undiscovered. Nevertheless the opposition accused ruling circles of Aquino's death, which was enough to provoke the present unrest.

However, many think that this is just the excuse for the mass demonstrations and that their causes lie deeper. Above all, the Hong Kong magazine FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW writes, they are related to the deterioration in the people's economic position -- the rise in the prices of foodstuffs and essential industrial goods, unemployment, and poverty. Economic growth rates are constantly slowing, and many enterprises are being ruined. The Philippines' foreign debt currently totals around $18 billion. Its main creditors are the IMF and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, both under U.S. control.

The magazine writes of "discontent in the country that the encouragement of foreign capital opened the Philippines to exploitation by multinational corporations." Naturally, in introducting a social and economic development program the government has tried to correct the situation, but in places, in the words of F. Marcos, the country's president himself, complaints are common against military and civilian officials who are tyrannical and pocket funds meant for social purposes. The regime's opponents (this means the recently created United National Democratic Opposition -- UNDO -- and other groupings) are also demanding the democratization of the Philippines' political life.

The situation in the country is complicated by the fact that it is infringed as a result of the American military presence, which insults Filipinos' national pride. It is no accident therefore that certain demonstrations are being held under anti-American slogans and are accompanied by demands for the scrapping of U.S. military bases, whose existence threatens the country's sovereignty.

It is not hard to realize that there is considerable concern in Washington in connection with the events in the Philippines. For the Pentagon considers its bases on the archipelago as one of the most important links in its aggressive strategy in Asia. As a State Department figure stated, "instability in the Philippines could jeopardize American access to the bases." And now certain observers are noting, not without foundation, that Washington is showing clear duplicity in trying simultaneously to play up to the government and the opposition.

One should also not lose sight of the fact that various political forces are trying to exploit the outburst of popular discontent for their own ends. The composition of these forces is extremely complex. They include influential Army top brass currently supporting the government, the Catholic Church, which is in conflict with the regime, and separatist elements. As for the opposition, all the indications are that it is fragmented.

It is in any case clear that the Philippines' complex problems promise no easy solutions, and there are therefore few observers ready to predict the outcome of the present stormy events.

KAMPUCHEA'S FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS MOSCOW

LD260055 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The Kampuchean foreign minister, Hun Sen, has left Moscow for home. He was in the Soviet Union for a working visit and a holiday.

U.S. BACKS KAMPUCHEAN 'PEOPLE'S ENEMIES'

LD231022 Moscow TASS in English 0812 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Washington September 23 TASS -- The White House has confirmed that it is giving all-round backing to the so-called "Coalition Government" of Kampuchea, which is in fact a gathering of the Kampuchean people's enemies of every stripe.

The U.S. Administration's statement leaves no doubt that it pins hopes for stepped-up acts of sabotage on precisely this "coalition" which, the statement said, is regarded by the United States as "an instrument of achieving a political settlement" in Kampuchea.

It is well known what this phrasing stands for: acts of aggression against People's Kampuchea that are staged by terrorist gangs operating out of Thailand.

Characteristically, the White House issued the statement several days after Son Sann, one of the "coalition"'s leaders, had been accorded a "warm welcome" and held a series of talks in Washington. The White House intends to continue such contacts in the next few days when President Reagan will personally meet Son Sann and Norodom Sihanouk in New York next week.

YUGOSLAVIA'S MAMULA RECEIVES ADMIRAL YEGEROV

For Yugoslav reportage on the visit to Yugoslavia of Admiral Georgiy Yegerov, DOSAAF chairman, including a TANJUG report on his 26 September meeting in Belgrade with Admiral Branko Mamula, SFRY federal secretary for national defense, see the Yugoslavia section of the 27 September Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PRAVDA NOTES HONECKER TALK WITH W. BERLIN MAYOR

PM270812 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Sep 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Topical Questions Discussed"]

[Text] Berlin, 16 Sep -- E. Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] and chairman of the GDR Council of State, has met here with R. von Weizsaecker, ruling mayor of West Berlin. As ADN reports, topical problems of international development, and above all questions of securing peace and preventing a new round in the arms race, were at the center of attention. Questions of relations between the GDR and West Berlin were also discussed.

It was emphasized at the meeting that the threat of war must never again come from German soil and that it is essential to do everything possible to remove the danger of nuclear catastrophe.

E. Honecker stated that the planned transformation of FRG territory into a launch pad for American first-strike facilities will not increase the security of either the FRG or West Berlin. It will lead to the further complication of the international situation, an increase in the danger of a new world war, and a deterioration in relations between the two German states, which, undoubtedly, may also have a detrimental influence on relations with West Berlin.

He pointed to the USSR's constructive disarmament proposals, which the GDR fully supports. These proposals provide a real chance of achieving a positive result at the Geneva talks. Until deployment of the new American nuclear missiles in Europe begins, agreement is still possible. It is now America's turn to set an example of a realistic approach to the matter.

The GDR leader emphasized that the GDR builds its relations with West Berlin on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. There is no sensible alternative to this.

The meeting participants noted that an improvement in West Berlin affairs had ensued since the four-power agreement on West Berlin was signed on 3 September 1971. The agreement exerted a positive influence on efforts to reduce tension in Europe and secure peace, and also had a beneficial effect on the situation of West Berlin and its inhabitants.

LCY DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS DETAILED

PM261339 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Sep 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Session of LCY Central Committee Presidium"]

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Sep -- An enlarged session of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee Presidium held here has discussed the domestic political and economic situation, TANJUG reports. The session noted that during the preceding period, thanks to the efforts of the working class and all the country's working people, the country had managed to maintain its production rates, considerably increase exports, reduce the balance of payments deficit, and maintain its external solvency.

Considerable results have been achieved in agriculture, in resolving problems of job placements, and in other fields of socioeconomic development.

However, the report says that, despite the indisputable results achieved in highly difficult internal and external conditions, the economic situation remains very difficult. The reason for this, in the opinion of the season participants, lies particularly in the slow and inconsistent implementation of the economic stabilization policy. An irresponsible work attitude by some officials and organizations is having an unfavorable influence on the country's situation. Working people's criticism with regard to ineffective resolution of economic and social problems is therefore justified.

The session noted that hostile elements which are attempting to make use of the existing difficulties and shortcomings to impose alien interests and goals have stepped up their activity in the country's difficult situation. In order for the LCY to be able to carry out its leading role in society, it must show greater mobility, militancy, and unity of action in resolving critical economic and social questions and must dissociate itself from those who are hampering the implementation of LCY policy.

The Central Committee Presidium, the report emphasizes, particularly pointed out the need to increase responsibility for fulfilling duties and called on communists to wage an uncompromising struggle to fulfill the important tasks confronting Yugoslav society.

A decision was taken to call a regular LCY Central Committee plenum this October to discuss the situation in the country and the LCY's tasks in implementing economic stabilization in 1984.

CSSR'S CHNOUPEK, GROMYKO BEGIN TALKS IN KREMLIN

LD261706 Moscow TASS in English 1642 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS -- Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Foreign Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Bohuslav Chnoupek arrived today in Moscow for a working visit.

At the airport the guest was met by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, other officials.

Ambassador of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in the Soviet Union Cestmir Lovetinsky was among the welcoming party.

Talks between Andrey Gromyko and Bohuslav Chnoupek opened in the Kremlin on the same day.

The ministers discussed a number of topical international problems. They pointed out that the present dangerous aggravation of the international tension is caused by the adventuristic actions of the most aggressive force of the United States and a number of other NATO countries that have made a stake on destabilization of international relations, on the achievement of military superiority over socialist countries.

There was a thorough exchange of opinions on question of the work of the 38th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The talks will be continued.

FRENCH PREMIER ON NATO, SANCTIONS, LEBANON

PM261330 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Sep 83 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "France's Position"]

[Text] Paris, 22 Sep -- French Premier Pierre Mauroy, speaking at the Higher National Defense Institute, has outlined Paris' position on a number of foreign policy problems.

Noting France's commitment to the North Atlantic alliance, at the same time he spoke out against the expansion of the geographical zone of NATO activity and against the adoption by the bloc allies of new defense obligations not envisaged in the agreements that have been signed. The head of the French Government critically evaluated the U.S. desire to tie up East-West economic relations with NATO's global military strategy and the U.S. attempts to persuade the allies -- both NATO members and those not belonging to the bloc -- to apply economic sanctions. France disagrees with such a position, he went on. The logic of economic blockade is the logic of war, Mauroy declared.

The premier also dwelt on the Near East situation. France, according to him, is striving to establish peace and stability in that region. This is the purpose, according to the premier, pursued by the French forces in Labanon.

The head of the government repeated the well known position held by official Paris regarding its disagreement with the suggestion that French nuclear facilities be taken into account in determining the overall balance of forces in Europe.

FRG ELECTIONS DEFEAT FOR 'MISSILE PARTIES'

LD270921 Moscow TASS in English 0737 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Moscow September 27 TASS -- The events of the past Sunday in Hesse and Bremen are viewed here as the defeat of "missile parties", as a serious warning to those who light-mindedly try to play with nuclear fire, writes in PRAVDA today Bonn correspondent Yuliy Yakhontov.

The failure of the Christian Democratic Union in Hesse and only an insignificant gain of one per cent and a half in Bremen where, by the way, Free Democrats, partners of the Christian Democratic Union in the governmental coalition in Bonn, did not enter the land government at all -- this is a reflection of genuine sentiments of the broad masses of electors in the FRG, the correspondent points out.

"The genuine sentiments are the growing discontent with the home policy of the government which is trying to resolve acute social problems and financial difficulties at the expense of the working people, pensioners, pupils. And finally, and this is the main -- discontent with the foreign-policy course of the government which is ready, cost what it may, to comply with Washington's demand of deployment of first-strike nuclear weapons on the FRG territory," Yuliy Yakhontov writes.

"The attempts of extreme right-wing forces to undermine detente, to kindle nationalism and revanchism, are the cause of great disappointment and indignation in the FRG. The population of West Germany do not want a new twist in the arms spiral, they do not want sliding to a nuclear precipice. The FRG residents declare against undermining of relations of cooperation and goodneighbourliness with socialist countries", the correspondent writes.

SUPREME SOVIET GROUP, FINNS SIGN COMMUNIQUE

LD261823 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS -- Members of Parliament of Finland and the Soviet Union have expressed profound concern about the continuing growth of world tension, the escalation of the arms race, and the increasing risk of nuclear conflict. This is said in a joint communique on the stay of a delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Pavel Gilashvili, vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic, on an official visit to Finland from September 19 to 25.

The head of the Soviet delegation was received by President Mauno Koivisto of the Republic of Finland. Members of the delegation had meetings and conversations with Erkki Pystynen, chairman of the Finnish Parliament, deputy chairmen of the Parliament, members of the government, and representatives of parliamentary commissions.

The parliamentarians of both countries expressed the conviction that in current conditions it is especially important to take vigorous action and pool the efforts of all peace-loving countries, statesmen, politicians, and broad public circles to fend off the danger of nuclear war, stop the further growth of tension in Europe and check the arms race.

The Finnish side spoke highly of the Soviet Union's new, major peace initiatives put forward by Yuriy Andropov, which are directed at forestalling another round of the nuclear arms race, removing the threat of nuclear war and strengthening peace in Europe and beyond it. The parliamentarians of the USSR and Finland stressed the significance of attaining concrete accords at Soviet-U.S. talks at Geneva on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe and on limiting and reducing strategic arms on the basis of equality and equal security.

In the light of the concluded Madrid meeting the Soviet and Finnish members of parliament emphasised the need to continue efforts to carry on the all-European process launched in Helsinki.

They pointed out the importance and urgency of Finland's proposal for declaring northern Europe a nuclear-weapons-free zone, whose realisation would have a positive effect on both the security of the people of the region and the sitaution in Europe as a whole, as well as the constructive stand on this issue of the Soviet Union which has repeatedly expressed its readiness to facilitate the implementation of Finland's proposal and act as a guarantor of the nuclear-weapons-free zone in the north of Europe.

The parliamentarians of the USSR and Finland declared their intention to continue making every effort to facilitate the strengthening of relations of friendship, goodneighbourliness and mutual trust between the people of the Soviet Union and Finland and working vigorously in order to enhance detente, peace and international security.

LEBANESE PREMIER TENDERS GOVERNMENT RESIGNATION

LD261525 Moscow TASS in English 1446 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Beirut September 26 TASS -- Prime Minister of Lebanon Shafiq al-Wazzan submitted to the country's President Amin al-Jumayyil his government's resignation, Beirut radio said. Al-Wazzan said that his cabinet's resignation is called upon to facilitate the process of "national dialogue" between the parties in confrontation in Lebanon and the task of forming a new government that would include representatives of all the leading political parties of the country.

U.S. STAND 'MAIN OBSTACLE' TO LEBANON SETTLEMENT

LD261406 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] It has been announced in Beirut and Damascus that as of Monday morning the cease-fire agreement went into force between the opposing Lebanese groupings throughout the territory of Lebanon. Details from our commentator Valentin Lapin:

The intercommunal clashes were caused by the continued Israeli occupation of that Arab country and by the direct American interference in its affairs. The clashes have produced numerous casualties among civilians and have brought this nation to the brink of a civil war. American Marines, supported by naval ships, were directly involved in operations against patriotic forces in Lebanon in order to rout them and to expand the American military presence in that country.

The cease-fire agreement has been reached following complicated talks with the mediation of other Arab countries. Syria's foreign minister, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, has noted the importance of the agreement and stressed the need of restoring Lebanon's unity and independence. It is felt in the Arab countries that given favorable conditions this agreement can help bring back peace to Lebanon. What is the U.S. stand on the issue? President Reagan has reiterated that in Lebanon and in the Middle East his country wants only peace, but exactly at this time the battleship New Jersey has joined the U.S. naval force off the shores of Lebanon. It has been officially announced in Washington simultaneously that the number of U.S. Marines in Lebanon is to be increased by 400 men.

It is impossible to visualize that these actions will help restore Lebanon's independence. The U.S. President predicted that Lebanon would have to cover a long road to solve its problems and so the American Marines are to stay in that country for another year as it has been announced. As for America's ally -- Israel -- it keeps occupying one-third of Lebanon and instead of leaving that country openly prepares for an intervention in Syria. And so to the accompaniment of the hypocritical talk about maintaining peace, Washington and Tel Aviv are working [as heard] havoc in Lebanon deliberately and in cold blood thus undermining Lebanon's statehood. Washington's stand is exactly the main obstacle towards a settlement in Lebanon and in the whole of the Middle East. It is particularly obvious now that to ensure peace and sovereignty in Lebanon it is necessary to press for the immediate full withdrawal of the Israeli troops of aggression from that country as well as for a stop to the American military interference.

U.S. 'UNBRIDLED DEMAGOGY' ON LEBANON CEASE-FIRE

LD261510 Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev writes:

Having hardly received the news on attaining in Beirut a ceasefire accord, Washington's official propagandists started praising to the sky American diplomacy for its allegedly "peace making efforts" in Lebanon, torn by interventions. But no propaganda mist can conceal the smouldering ruins of Beirut, Suq el-Gharb and other Lebanese towns and villages which were bombarded by American artillery.

It is not for the first time that Washington resorts to unbridled demagogy in a bid to mislead peoples and to cover up by protestations of "peace" its feverish striving for world domination. The latest efforts of the White House to appear in the role of "peace-maker" in the Middle East can give rise to nothing but repulsion.

How can one forget, to discard the indisputable fact that the tragedy of Lebanon which has been lasting for the second year now, is a direct result of the American-Israeli strategic alliance, that exactly the United States armed the Israeli Army to the teeth, trained it and encouraged it for aggression under the blasphemous code-name "Peace Galilee"? [as received] Can propaganda contrivances of the Reagan team erase from the memory the fact that exactly the United States sided firm with the aggressor, and blocked up all efforts of the world community both within the walls of the United Nations and outside, the efforts aimed at ending the bloodshed in Lebanon and withdrawing the Israeli occupation troops from its territory?

It was the United States which hurried to assist its ally when it bogged down in suburbs of Beirut, having encountered heroic resistance of fighting men of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Lebanese patriots and staunchness of the Syrian contingent, part of the inter-Arab peace keeping force. To replace exhausted Israeli warriors Washington sent its Marines under the flag of the "multinational force" and 20 combatant ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet.

The real meaning of that joint operation of the Pentagon and the Department of State soon became clear: Contrary to solemn pledges of the U.S. President the American military in Lebanon unleashed combat actions against those Lebanese forces which firmly turn down the fettering "agreement" with Israel, which was imposed upon the country. The United States pounced on peaceful dwellings of those Lebanese the firepower of its forces that were drawn to the area, with the obvious aim to break the fragile intercommunal equilibrium in Lebanon and to impose upon that country a regime and an order that would be suitable to Washington and Tel Aviv.

Even now when a ceasefire agreement was reached in Beirut, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz implied that the mission of the U.S. Armed Forces in Lebanon remained unchanged.

After all this chain of criminal adventurist actions, which took a toll of tens of thousand lives of Lebanese and Palestinians, which led to bitter tears of Arab widows and orphans, ruins of cities and villages, they in Washington still dare to harp on "peaceableness". But who would believe them?

'ANTI-ARAB EXPANSIONIST' AIMS OF U.S.-ISRAEL HIT

LD230902 Moscow TASS in English 0832 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Moscow September 23 TASS -- Today's PRAVDA and other newspapers carry the following TASS report:

The United States is escalating its armed interference in Lebanon. The number of victims of the barbaric bombings of Beirut and nearby populated localities grow not only with each passing day, but even with each hour as heavy guns of the U.S. 6th Fleet subject them to intensive bombardment. About twenty ships of the fleet, including the atomic aircraft carrier "Dwight Eisenhower" and the guided-missile cruiser "Virginia" have literally sealed off the Lebanese coast. The battleship "New Jersey" is sailing at high speed to their aid. The overall numerical strength of the American forces in the region reached, as reported by the Boston CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, 14,000 men.

The mask of the "multinational force", under the cover of which the American interventionist corps penetrated inside Lebanese territory, has been virtually discarded. Also discarded was the hypocritical prattling of the White House that the U.S. Marines came to Lebanon with the sole aim of ending bloodshed on its soil and ensure some "disengagement" of the Israeli troops and opposing Arab forces. They in Washington do not mention Reagan's solemn pledges not to allow the involvement of the American troops in hostilities and to withdraw them from Lebanon not later than in 30 days. Now the President and U.S. Congress have apparently reached a bargain by coming to agreement on extending the stay of the troops there for at least 18 months, and the Pentagon chief, Weinberger, refuses altogether to talk about the dates of their pullout. As to the "non-involvement in hostilities", the White House sanctioned the use against Lebanese patriots of the entire might of the Marines, Navy and Air Force of the United States concentrated in the region at the discretion of the command of the American interventionist forces.

The situation in Lebanon, one year after the appearance on its soil of American Marines, clearly reveals the true intentions and results of the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel. The United States has turned from an accomplice in the Israeli aggression in Lebanon into its direct and active participant. Its political and military actions heighten and complicate to the extreme the situation in that country and around it, lead to great losses among the much-suffering Lebanese people.

Staging one dirty provocation after another, inciting clashes between various Lebanese communities which have for centuries lived in peace and accord, Washington jointly with Tel Aviv not only destablise Lebanon, but deliberately demolish it in cold blood, undermining the very foundations of Lebanese statehood and sovereignty. Washington would like to replace the coalition government, which is recognised by all sections of the Lebanese society and which enjoys prestige in the country, with people who are prepared to implement obediently the fettering treaty with Israel, imposed on Lebanon, and thus turn the country into a blind tool of the realisation of the hegemonistic, anti-Arab designs of the United States and Israel. One can only express surprise that this obvious truth escapes attention of some leading figures in Arab countries.

The anti-Arab expansionist essence of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance, which was first covered by the Camp David "peace treaty" and now the "Reagan plan", now makes itself felt as never before. Washington's and Tel Aviv's policies did not bring closer by a jot the solution of the burning and vital problems of the region, but only heap new and hard to overcome obstacles in the way of their solution, and above all, the crux of any genuine and durable Middle East settlement -- the Palestinian problem. To the rumble of U.S. naval guns, Israel is intensively preparing for a strike against Syrian troops in the Al-Biqa' Valley from the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon.

Treading on Lebanese soil and using arms against the Lebanese people, U.S. imperialism vividly demonstrates to the whole world not only the scope and aims of its global claims, but also immoral and criminal methods with which it is trying to attain them.

FRENCH SEEN FOLLOWING 'IN U.S. FOOTSTEPS'

PM260843 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 83 First Edition p 5

[Yuriy Kharlanov "Observer's Opinion"]

[Text] So then, in the wake of the Americans, the French contingent of the "multinational forces" has been drawn directly into the armed conflict in Lebanon. Paris's overt support of Washington's exceptionally dangerous Near East policy can only entail the greater complication of the situation in this long-suffering part of the planet. Moreover, one should not ignore the fact that quite recently -- literally at the beginning of the week -- Premier P. Maurois said: "France has serious reasons for seeing that its armed forces do not intervene in the internal conflicts" in Lebanon. And External Relations Minister C. Cheysson went further, stating that the combat actions of the American contingent of the "multinational forces" were, evidently, "not the best means of finding a settlement" in Lebanon. And now these same murderous means condemned by France's leaders are being used by their armed forces. Just as in Chad, the government of the Fifth Republic is clearly following in the footsteps of the U.S. imperialist forces. It is no surprise that Washington, in the words of a CBS correspondent, greeted this news with "undisguised satisfaction."

Between the two world wars (until 1943) Lebanon was a French mandate and, to all intents and purposes, a colony. Is it not nostalgia for those dark times that has spurred Paris into open military intervention in that country's affairs?

TIKHONOV, PONOMAREV WELCOME PDRY LEADER

LD270901 Moscow TASS in English 0843 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Moscow September 27 TASS -- 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) arrived in Moscow today for a brief working visit.

At the airport the guest was met by Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by other officials.

YAR ENVOY LAUDS USSR FRIENDSHIP, AID

LD262013 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Today, the people of the Yemen Arab Republic mark the 21st anniversary of the 1 September Revolution. This is what Muhammad 'Abd al-'Uthman, ambassador extrordinary and plenipotentiary of the Yemen Arab Republic in the USSR, said in talking to our correspondent.

['Abd al-'Uthman in Arabic fading into translation] Dear Soviet friends, today we mark the day of the revolution, which was victorious after the prolonged struggle of our people against the imam regime, which stood for the poverty, beggary, and economic backwardness of the country.

The liquidation of the feudal regime and the subsequent transformations opened up a new road of development for the Yemeni people. We look on the present anniversary of the victory of the revolution, Muhammad 'Abd al-'Uthman continues, not just as a purely historical date. In 21 years, great changes have taken place in the country in the economic and cultural fields. Among the major successes, one should not the considerable development of the health service, the liquidation of illiteracy, and the development of transport, agriculture and industry. Today we say with pride that the five-year plan for the development of the country's economy has been fulfilled. Yemenis are confident that the second economic development plan will be implemented just as successfully.

Our country has achieved great successes under the leadership of Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and chairman of the People's Assembly. The Yemen Arab Republic pursues an independent foreign policy in the international field. The republic urges firmer unity of the Arab countries in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction. Our state's foreign policy is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence. We have good relations with all countries, and in particular, with the Soviet Union. Your state has extended to us the hand of friendship and has given great assistance in the creation and consolidation of the Yemen's economy. Since the visit to Moscow by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, our relations have risen to a qualitatively higher level, and we believe that the further development of relations of friendship and all-round cooperation between our countries is in the interests of the peoples both of the Soviet Union and the Yemen Arab Republic.

The Yemeni people thank the CPSU and the Soviet Government for the all-round assistance being given to our republic. Let me take this opportunity to express gratitude to the management of the USSR State Committee for Radio and Television for making it possible for me to take part in this Soviet radio program.

PAST, PRESENT ROLE OF FRANCE IN CHAD VIEWED

PM261421 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Sep 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by IZVESTIYA Political Observer A. Bovin under the rubric "Problems and Opinions": "The French in Africa"]

[Text] It is relatively quiet again in Chad following the clashes in the Oum Chalouba area. The country is effectively divided into north and south. The so-called "Mitterrand Line," which approximately follows the 15th parallel, forms the border between them. It is on the "Mitterrand Line" that the French military subunits are deployed.

The appearance of a new political-geographical term is symptomatic enough in itself. It characterizes the extent of France's involvement in the affairs of its former colony. More than 3,000 marines, paratroopers, and French Foreign Legion soldiers have been sent to Chad. They have combat helicopters, heavy artillery, and armored vehicles at their disposal. Four Jaguar ground-attack aircraft and four Mirage fighters are based in Ndjamena. France has probably not had such large forces in an African country since the war in Algeria.

The French are not shooting at the moment. But politics are somewhat like drama: If we see a gun on stage in the first act, it is going to be fired in a subsequent act. It is true that bad dramatists do not always observe this rule. Something you can't say about bad politicians... By and large, to send troops to a country engulfed by civil war is to deliberately risk involvement in the war. It is no accident that LE FIGARO somberly remarked: France in Chad "is in a situation that resembles the U.S. situation in Vietnam."

Certainly not a straightforward situation. Its roots lie in the distant past.

As is known, France used to be one of the main colonial powers in Africa. The French left behind 26 French-speaking states. While it ceased formally to be the colonial homeland, France continues to take a proprietorial interest in a considerable part of the former dependent territories -- draining them of raw materials, keeping guaranteed sales markets, and supporting regimes it finds desirable.

In the sixties and seventies, protecting its political and economic interests, Paris played a more or less prominent military role in many conflicts. In order to be able to continue -- but in a modernized, modified form -- exploiting the former colonies, French troops participated in putting down the uprising in Niger, helped to restore the ousted government in Gabon, fought in Chad, routed partisans in Cameroon and Mauritius, and parachuted into Shaba on two occasions. Sometimes it seemed even that Paris was boasting of its readiness to resolutely and unceremoniously establish "order" in Africa.

The French Socialists, both when they were fighting for power and when they came to power, repeatedly stated their intention to break with the gendarme tradition. They ostentatiously dissociated themselves from neocolonialism and vigorously opposed interference, especially armed interference in African affairs. And not only African. "Tiersmondisme" (from tiers monde -- "third world") -- the establishment of equal, friendly relations and "decolonialized cooperation" with developing countries -- was named as one of the principal guidelines of French foreign policy.

It was all nice to hear. But there were worrying reservations and vague, ambivalent phrases accompanying the statements of good intentions. I remember a visit I made to the Ministry of Cooperation and Development. It was at the end of 1981. I was given the following explanation of the nature of France's new African policy: to be wherever Africa is having difficulties, but not to interfere in internal affairs. This was then clarified: France will never interfere or use force except by agreement and with the support of other forces, in particularly regional forces. It seemed to me that this position was open to a very broad interpretation. And what about troops? I inquired. The reply was: We are prepared to pull the troops out, but the Africans want them to stay, they are frightened of new "Ugandas and Nigerias." In other words, France will keep its forces on the territory of African countries until the latter are in a position to safeguard their own security.

It was not long before the principles began to be ousted by the reservations. On 15 June 1982 LE MONDE published a statement by French National Defense Minister C. Hernu: "Our troops must be such that they can be sent, if need be, to Africa with all the equipment they require...." As you can see, the minister is no longer bothered about the question: Withdraw the troops or keep them there? He is meditating on the possibility of sending troops to Africa. The traditions are being revived...

The events in Chad have put the matter into perspective. F. Mitterrand is acting entirely in the spirit of G. Pompidou or V. Giscard d'Estaing. But the Socialist president obviously feels somewhat awkward and he is busy selecting persuasive arguments to avoid charges of neocolonialism and to provide a new, "socialist" validation of the "right to interfere." Let us examine these arguments.

Argument one. France is responding to appeals from the Chadian government and from the governments of other African states. This would appear to be true. H. Habre did ask the French to send troops. What is more he asked them to participate in hostilities. And H. Habre's request was endorsed by several African governments.

There are two perplexing facts. First, the legality of H. Habre's government is highly dubious, to put it mildly. The last general recognized government of Chad was the government of Goukouni Oueddei, set up on the basis of the Lagos agreements. H. Habre rebelled against this government and seized power with the assistance of the United States, Sudan, and Egypt. Therefore, Paris is effectively aiding rebels. Second, if someone climbs into someone else's apartment he can scarcely justify it by saying that he did it at the request of neighbors.

Argument two. France has a special treaty responsibility for the situation in Chad. In fact, France has a treaty with Chad which was concluded on 6 March 1976. But as far as its military aspects are concerned, this treaty envisages only instruction and material and technical assistance. The treaty does not envisage the dispatch of large troop contingents.

Of course, Paris is perfectly well aware of this. And F. Mitterrand couches it in the following elegant phrase: France "is broadening the framework of the treaty." I think that any French lawyer would explain to his president that to widen de facto the framework of legally stated obligations is to violate those obligations.

The third argument. France, the president asserts, is defining its role and interests in Africa; France is responsible for equilibrium in Africa. Unlike the first two, this argument has the ring of a conundrum. Comment cannot be avoided, but there is no wish to comment. Even though it is precisely here that the essential discussion begins....

Comment cannot be avoided because -- and this is common knowledge -- France has considerable political and economic interests in Africa. There is no wish to comment because to cite those interests and French responsibility in order to justify the sending of troops is typically colonialist logic and a typical approach by a parent state to the arrangement of affairs on the colonial perephery.

And no matter what attitude Paris adopts, the circle is closing. The previously abandoned gendarme's uniform has been taken out of the wardrobe. And its "socialist" braid does not change the essence of the matter. The present dispatching of troops to Chad fully fits in with the traditional interventionist course backed by French capital. In arguing his position and his right to intervene, the French president insists on complete independence in decisionmaking. Blessed are those who believe that. But not everyone does. "I believe," said former Foreign Minister M. Jobert, "that French intervention in Chad was encouraged by the United States, which pressured the African countries to force them to turn for assistance to France." Or another variation on the same theme: French intervention, LE MONDE has noted, "is based on the fear that the French allies in Africa will consider U.S. assistance more reliable than French assistance." Other nuances of Franco-U.S. relations in Africa could also have been highlighted. But in any event -- no matter how much the independence of French decisionmaking is stressed -- it is hard to avoid the impression that Paris is in the shadow of U.S. policy.

So what is the result? The result is that France is aiding forces opposed to Chad's legitimate government. The result is, furthermore, that it is doing so in violation of a treaty that it has signed. The final result is that in Africa France is defending its own interests plus U.S. interests. That is how matters stand with the arguments.

But let us not be pedantic. Let us not demand a Cartesian clarity of thought in such a confused and contradictory situation. Let us take another aspect. What Paris is saying is this: We went to Chad not to fight but to stop Libya and to create the conditions for a peaceful solution of the conflict, and it must be resolved not by us, the French, but by the Africans themselves. I believe that Paris would have preferred to have avoided military actions. It was no coincidence that there was a long hesitation before a decision was taken. "Francois Mitterrand," NEWSWEEK said maliciously, "put the troops into Chad with about the enthusiasm of a refined connoisseur of expensive wines pouring a cheap port." Pouring it out is nothing, it is still only half the problem: What if you have to drink it, too? With the best intentions, events can still take an unexpected turn. That is when the shooting has to begin. And you have to count the dead. Your own and the other side's.

Analogies are not evidence. Nevertheless... The French soldiers who went to Lebanon as part of the "multinational force" -- again on Washington's say-so -- did not go there to fight, either. But 16 men have already been killed and 44 wounded. Super-Etendard warplanes from the aircraft carrier "Foch" are already flying over the suburbs of Beirut. And no one knows what will happen next. No one can claim that matters in Lebanon are improving. Yet we were assured that it was to improve and stabilize the situation in Lebanon that the "Multinational Force" went there.

Let us return to Chad. France is clearly intensifying its diplomatic activity to achieve its goals by peaceful means. Representatives of the OAU have been to Paris. There have been contacts between Paris and Tripoli. In principle all this is useful. Let us even assume that the difficulties will be overcome and a political solution found. But as long as it is found under the protection of French bayonets it will hardly be durable. Twice -- in 1968 and 1978 -- French troops have intervened in conflicts and twice it brought France no honors and did not help Chad. I am afraid that it is going to be that way a third time.

HONDURAN LEADER VISITS U.S., MEETS WITH REAGAN

PM261036 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Sep 83 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "United States-Honduras: Talks? No, Collusion"]

[Text] Washington, 22 Sep -- Honduran "President" Cordova has appeared in the U.S. capital and has been received by White House Chief Reagan.

No official statements were published on what was discussed at the meeting or the aims of Cordova's U.S. visit. But observers view the trip by the ringleader of the Honduran regime in the context of the large-scale militarist preparations which the Reagan administration has launched in Central America and which are aimed at suppressing the national liberation struggle of the peoples of the region. Special attention is drawn here to the fact that the visit is at the very time when the "Big Pine II" military maneuvers -- the biggest in Central America's history -- are being held with the participation of over 11,000 U.S. and Honduran servicemen.

Even according to the admission of the U.S. press, these maneuvers are nothing but a "dress rehearsal" for armed intervention against sovereign Nicaragua.

U.S. 'BUILDING UP' HONDURAN MILITARY PRESENCE

LD240128 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1907 GMT 23 Sep 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] The Pentagon is building up its military presence in Honduras. Local garrisons are full of American instructors and the training of mercenaries is in progress. Fresh equipment is arriving in the Honduran Department of Comayagua, which is effectively occupied by American troops; fresh squadrons of combat helicopers and C-130 military transport aircraft have arrived there. This military equipment will be used during maneuvers at Yanqui near the Nicaraguan borders, and then handed over to the Honduran military. On an island in the Gulf of Fonseca an electronic espionage base is being built. Its range of action will encompass a large area of Latin America.

UK CREATING 'POWERFUL NATO' BASE ON FALKLANDS

PM231410 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Sep 83 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Expansion Continues"]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Sep - Britain's military expansion on the Malvinas is continuing, the Argentine Magazine (SOMOS) writes. At present the archipelago is literally inundated with British servicemen, military construction workers, and maintemance personnel. Some 27 military installations of various sorts and a dense network of roads intended for purely military purposes are being built there at an accelerated pace. A modern missile air defense system is also being built.

One of the aims of creating "Fortress Malvinas," the magazine continues, is to strengthen Britain's military presence in the immediate vicinity of the Antartic by 1991 when the present Antarctic treaty has to be reviewed. Moreover, what is involved is the creation by Britain, together with the United States, of a powerful NATO military base within the context of a plan to militarize the South Atlantic in which the Chilean dictatorship and the racist South African regime are also participating.

AIR FORCE'S MARSHAL YEFIMOV RETURNS FROM MEXICO

PM221516 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Sep 83 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit Completed"]

[Text] Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, first deputy commander in chief of the Air Force, who has been in Mexico at the invitation of the national defense minister for the celebrations to mark the 173d anniversary of the country's independence, has returned to Moscow.

STATE, PARTY HONOR PANAMANIAN COMMUNIST

LD241854 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has sent cordial congratulations to Ruben Dario Sousa, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Party of Panama, a prominent figure in the communist and workers' movement of Panama and Latin America, on his 60th birthday.

Your political activity, the greetings message says, is indissolubly linked with the struggle of Panamanian communists for the vital rights of the working people against imperialism and the local oligarchy, for peace, democracy and social progress and for friendship between the peoples of our countries. You consistently stand up in defense of the national interests and against U.S. interference in Panama's internal affairs and for the restoration of Panama's sovereign rights over the Panama Canal.

By decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Ruben Dario Sousa has been awarded the Order of Friendship of the Peoples.

MORE ON 19 SEP RSFSR PRESIDIUM MEETING

PM261345 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Sep 83 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the "Press Service" rubric: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The long-term land reclamation program examined recently in the CPSU Central Committee Politburo pays special attention to the implementation of measures to ensure high returns from irrigated and drained land on the basis of the improved operation of water supply systems, the widespread introduction of efficient irrigation methods, environmental protection work, and the redistribution of water resources in the interests of the national economy.

In the spirit of the demands made by this program, the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium examined a feasibility study for the redistribution of part of the flow of northern rivers. The problem affects the interests of the RSFSR Northwest, Central, Volga Vyatka, Central Chernozem, Volga, North Caucasus, and Urals Economic Regions, which occupy a territory of more than 3.6 million square km with a population of around 100 million people.

Through the redistribution of part of the flow of northern rivers it is planned to supply water to the Don, Ural, Kuban, and Terek river basins and the Caspian and Azov Seas, and irrigated farming is to be further developed as envisaged in the country's Food Program.

The closest attention in appraising the feasibility study is paid to environmental protection questions, a careful attitude to land, and the preservation of historical monuments. A number of proposals and observations was expressed relating to the compilation of plans.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium also examined questions pertaining to the work of Penza Oblast soviet and agricultural organs in introducing the collective contract on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and a comprehensive program for the development and expansion of pneumatic pipeline transport in the RSFSR.

The session was chaired by V. I. Vorotnikov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

VOROTNIKOV AWARDS NOVOSIBIRSK ORDER OF LENIN

LD231858 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 23 Sep 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Excerpts] A solemn meeting was held in Novosibirsk today devoted to the awarding of the Order of Lenin to the town. Comrade Vorotnikov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, spoke at the session.

[Begin Vorotnikov recording] Esteemed comrades, today is a joyful and ceremonial occasion for you and all citizens of Novosibirsk and the oblast. The town of Novosibirsk is being awarded the highest award of the motherland, the Order of Lenin. Allow me on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers, and on behalf of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and government of the Russian Federation, warmly to congratulate you and all working people of the town and oblast on this honorable and merited award. [applause]

With great satisfaction I convey hearty congratulations from Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on the occasion of this auspicious event in the life of your town. Yuriy Vladimirovich requested that sincere wishes for good health, happiness, and new achievements for the glory of our great motherland and for the triumph of communism be conveyed to all of you. He expressed the firm conviction that the people of Novosibirsk will continue to provide models of political and labor activity, successfully to implement the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the targets of the 5-year plan and to hold high the banner of socialist competition.

The course set by the Communist Party toward business, high productivity and able management have aroused great political and labor enthusiasm, and this course is being consistently implemented. In the 8 months of the current year all the basic indicators of the development of the country's economy have improved. Plan targets for the growth of industrial production goods were overfulfilled, their volume increased in comparison with the equivalent period of last year by 4 percent, against the plan of 3.2 percent. Labor productivity in industry increased by 3.4 percent. Roughly similar indicators were also achieved in the Russian Federation. Positive shifts were also noted in agriculture, which is developing according to the implementation of the food program.

Novosibirsk Oblast, twice awarded the Order of Lenin, is making a worthy contribution to the economy of the Russian Federation and the whole country, as is your remarkable town with its 1.4 million inhabitants. Novosibirsk people are justifiably proud that their town, which is marking its 90th anniversary this year, has an outstanding role in the history of the fatherland. Its comparatively short history contains no small measure of glorious revolutionary, combat and labor achievements. In the scale of production, the volume and variety of its produce, Novosibirsk has joined the ranks of the largest industrial centers of our country.

Comrades, while we honor what has been done, on a festive day we must critically approach the assessment of results achieved and concentrate our strength on unsolved questions, on removing shortcomings, and be more alert to prospects and the task facing each collective. The measures being taken by the party in the interests of further development and improvement of the Soviet socialist society are being met with general support and warm approval by working people. Soviet people are full of determination to carry out successfully the historic tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent plenums of its Central Committee, to achieve a further rise in economy and culture, and the growth of prosperity for the people.

Comrades, our country is reaching new frontiers of social and economic progress and of the implementation of the historic tasks of perfecting developed socialism. In this great work, which is transforming our country, the working people of the renowned town of Novosibirsk and all Novosibirsk Oblast have a worthy place. Allow me to express the conviction that you will always be capable of fulfilling the tasks that the party sets and will always make a substantial contribution to the creative efforts of the whole Soviet people [end recording]

Comrade Vorotnikov read out the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree and pinned the Order of Lenin to the town banner.

Meetings Held

LD242248 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Increasing the efficiency and quality of work [word indistinct] introduction into production of the achievements of science, improving economic activity, and strengthening discipline -- these and other questions were discussed at a meeting of the Novosibirsk Obkom with Comrade Vorotnikov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

Vitaliy Ivanovich Vorotnikov visited scientific communities of the Siberian department of the Academy of Sciences and Vaskhnil, the Chkalov aviation works, the (Priobskiy) Sovkhoz, and the Bolshevik Kolkhoz. Comrade Vorotnikov was accompanied on his tour of the oblast by Aleksandr Pavlovich Filatov, first secretary of the Novosibirsk Obkom; and Viktor Andreyevich Filatov, chairman of the oblast executive committee.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES PARTY PROPAGANDA AKTIV

LD262015 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Sep 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A conference of Moscow's party propaganda aktiv was held in the capital today. Issues of improving the training process in the system of Marxist-Leninist education and of strengthening ties between training and the practical tasks of labor collectives were discussed. Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, spoke at the conference.

GORBACHEV ATTENDS MOSCOW 'FESTIVE MEETING'

LD232209 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 23 Sep 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A festive meeting dedicated to engineering worker's day took place in Moscow today.

In the presidium were Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo, CPSU Central Committee secretary; Comrades Marchuk and Smirnov, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Frolov, head of a department of the CPSU Central Committee; and heads of a series of ministries and departments, scientists, leading workers, and representatives of the capital's public.

Comrade Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, gave a report.

CPSU'S BOGOLYUBOV ADDRESSES KIRGHIZ MEETING

WA261400 [Editorial Report] Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 7 July 1983 on p 1 carries a 1,500-word article on K.M. Bogolyubov's attendance as main speaker at a meeting of electors from Issyk-Kul' electoral okrug. The meeting was held in Przheval'sk on 5 July. Bogolyubov, "chief of the CPSU Central Committee General Department," discussed social and economic achievements in Issyk-Kul' Oblast. He also met with electors in Cholpan-Ata. T.U. Usubaliyev attended all meetings.

RASHIDOV ADDRESSES TASHKENT AWARD CEREMONY

PM221508 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Sep 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "City of Friendship and Peace"]

[Text] Tashkent, 9 September -- Among the many fall colors in the streets and squares of Uzbekistan's capital is the scarlet of flags and banners, many bearing the figure "2,000." Such is the age of Tashkent -- now one of the country's major industrial and cultural centers. The jubilee has been given a special flavor by the awarding of the Order of Lenin to the city -- for the great services of the city's working people to the revolutionary movement, their contribution to victory in the Great Patriotic War, the successes they have achieved in economic and cultural construction, and in connection with the 2,000th anniversary of the city's foundation.

Front-rank production workers and innovators, scientific and cultural figures, and representatives of the public gathered in the V.I. Lenin Palace of Friendship of the USSR Peoples. Among the guests of honor were envoys from fraternal republics, members of the delegations participating in the work of the fourth session of the intergovernmental council for the UNESCO International Communications Development Program, and participants in the festivities devoted to the 1,200th anniversary of the birth of al-Khorezm, the outstanding oriental scientist, and the Japanese days in Uzbekistan.

An honorary Presidium comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo was elected with enthusiasm.

A speech was delivered at the meeting by Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee. Speaking of the enormous changes that have taken place in Tashkent's biography during the years of Soviet power, he stressed that the present jubilee is a brilliant holiday for all our country's peoples and yet another convincing demonstration of socialism's world-historic victories, of the great transforming power of the party's Leninist national policy, and of the unbreakable fraternity of all the socialist homeland's nations and ethnic groups.

Awards to cities, the speaker said, are awards to the people who create their honor, glory, and majesty. Tashkent -- one of the world's most ancient cities -- is also an example of this. Its history incarnates the richness of the ancient material and spiritual culture of the Uzbek and other Central Asian peoples and is a part of world history.

Tashkent has played an important role in the historic fates of the Central Asian peoples. It arose at the crossroads of the trade routes between the East and Europe, and long ago the main trading artery of antiquity -- the Great Silk Road which linked the countries of the Greco-Roman world with the Far East -- ran through it. And the city occupied an important place in the development of economic and cultural links between East and West. In the Middle Ages Tashkent was a major artisanal, trading and cultural center. Since far-off times it was the link between the cultures of the Central Asian peoples and the other countries of the East.

Tashkent played an important role in establishing and developing economic, political, and cultural relations between Central Asia and Russia. The roots of these relations reach into the distant past. Occupying a favorable geographic position, the city gradually became the center for these links: Its territorial proximity and centuries-long contact created the preconditions for the subsequent rapprochement between the Central Asian and Russian peoples.

Tashkent's role in the fates of the Central Asian peoples grew especially after the Turkestan region's accession to Russia. The main thing was that Russia was moving toward a greater popular revolution, and as a result of the accession the unification of the Russian revolutionary-democratic movement with the Central Asian peoples' national liberation struggle was brought about. Tashkent became the regional center of this unifying movement.

The October Revolution opened a new biography for the centuries-old city -- the era of its true rebirth, of the rapid and steady upsurge of its economy and culture, of fraternal cooperation and mutual aid between all our country's peoples had arrived.

In the course of socialist building Uzbekistan's capital turned into Central Asia's major administrative, political, industrial, and cultural center. The city's working people made a great contribution toward implementing the cultural revolution.

Tashkent is indebted for all its achievements and its transformation into a modern socialist city to the courage, heroism, and selflessness of the thousands and thousands of the Soviet people's sons who accomplished the revolution, defended its gains, and carried out the first 5-year plans.

Today's Tashkent is a city with a population of 2 million. Over 420 major industrial enterprises operate here, providing the country with tractors and planes, excavators and cotton-picking combines, electronic apparatus and cables, and also exporting them to many foreign countries. Tashkent's working class, in molding which Russia's proletariat played a decisive role, is worthily bearing and augmenting the older generations' glorious revolutionary and labor traditions. There are 19 higher and 36 secondary specialized teaching institutions and around 70 scientific research institutes in Uzbekistan's capital.

The sectors of the city's national economy are confidently developing in the present 5-year period. The industrial production growth targets for the first half of the period have been overfulfilled, and the output and output sales, and labor productivity growth plan has been fulfilled. During this time industrial output worth R130 million has been produced over and above the plan.

The flagships of Tashkent's and the whole republic's industry are the V.P. Chkalov aviation production association; the V.I. Lenin electrical equipment plant; the 50-Let SSSR tractor plant; the Voroshilov "Tashselmash"; the excavator plant; the cable plant; the "Tashmetrostroy" trust; the "Krasnaya Zarya" clothing production association; and the "Milik" knitwear association, whose output is famed in every corner of our immense motherland and dozens of countries of the world.

Tashkent's labor glory is being augmented by such remarkable people as Hero of Socialist Labor Ismail Arinov, concrete workers' team leader at the No 1 Housing Construction Combine; Lidiya Kazantseva, a weaver at the Tashkent textile combine; Khamid Karabayev, team leader at the No 1 "Vysotstroy" trust; and others.

The city's working people well realize that it is their supreme patriotic and international duty to make the maximum contribution to the Soviet peoples' common cause and that close cooperation and mutual aid is the key to their success. Profoundly realizing this, hundreds of Tashkent people are working in the Nonchernozem Zone, on the Baykal-Amur railroad project, and in Tyumen. Implementing their international duty, our specialists are working in Afghanistan and Angola, Mozambique and Syria, helping their peoples to build a new life.

Tashkent is rightly called a city of friendship, brotherhood, and cooperation among peoples. In terms of population composition it is one of the most international of the country's cities. Whereas in the thirties there were 50 nationalities represented in the city, there are now more than 120.

Tashkent is multinational, multifaceted, and multilingual. But among all its inhabitants of the most diverse nationalities there exists one common language -- the language of the Great Russian people. It is a means not only of international communication, but also of spiritual enrichment and all-round development for all working people. We are devoting special attention to the task of improving the study of our common language which serves to deepen mutual understanding between the USSR's nations and ethnic groups.

With each year Tashkent's international links grow and strengthen, and its contribution to the cause of peace, social progress, and cooperation among the peoples increase. The city's economic links with foreign countries are increasingly expanding. Industrial output leaves here for 70 world states.

Tashkent has become a traditional place for holding many international meetings -- of writers from Asian and African countries, film festivals, symposia, congresses, and conferences. Millions of people on the planet -- all those who value the ideals of peoples' freedom and social progress -- today pay heed to its voice, the voice of peace and friendship.

Comrade Sh. R. Rashidov stressed that all the achievements and successes of Tashkent and our whole republic are the result of the party's wise Leninist Nationalities policy. It is the result of the creative work and great fraternity of working people and of our peoples' unbreakable friendship.

The peoples' friendship, fraternity, and cooperation was demonstrated particularly forcefully during the days of the earthquake that befell Tashkent. The days of rebuilding the city wrote one of the brightest pages in its 20-century-long history, pages full of special social meaning. These are pages of unprecedented feats, of the courage of fraternal peoples, of proof of their profound feeling of involvement in the common cause's fate, and of the great feeling of a united family.

To applause from those gathered Sh. R. Rashidov attached the motherland's award -- the Order of Lenin -- to the banner of Tashkent.

The jubilee city's working people were heartily congratulated by UNESCO Director General Amadou Mahtar M'bow and representatives from the fraternal republics' capitals and the city of Ivanovo, with which Tashkent has long-standing ties of working fraternity.

The meeting's participants expressed their profound gratitude to the Communist Party and the Soviet Government for their high assessment of Tashkent people's contribution to the cause of communist building and gave an assurance that the working people of the city and the whole republic will continue to work with inspiration to implement the historic decisions of the 26th Party Congress' and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums' decisions and to strengthen the might of the motherland -- a reliable bastion of peace throughout the world.

'SOURCE' SAYS EARLY CPSU CONGRESS LIKELY

PM261231 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 21 Sep 83 pp 1, 10

[Rodolfo Brancoli dispatch: "Andropov Wants to Regenerate the CPSU; Congress Brought Forward to 1985?"]

[Text] Moscow, 20 Sep -- The 27th CPSU Congress, the first since Andropov has been [general] secretary, will apparently be brought forward by 1 year and will thus take place at the beginning of 1985. A reliable Soviet source, one of the best informed of those to whom a Westerner usually has access, thinks this fairly probable. It would be preceded by changes in the leadership cadres from cell to rayon and oblast level (the campaign has already started), by a vast reshuffle of the Council of Ministers in the middle of 1984 after the Supreme Soviet elections, and by changes in the leaders at republic level in the fall, at the same time as the elections of congress delegates are held.

From this picture which has been sketched for us, 1984 would thus become the crucial year for the definitive consolidation of the new CPSU leader's power -- a consolidation which was apparently speeded up after last June's plenum.

In this context, note should also be taken of the increasingly prominent personal role of Mikhail Gorbachev, the youngest Politburo member (he is 52), one of the four people who are simultaneously members of the Politburo and the Secretariat, who seems to have become Andropov's main aide.

By bringing the congress forward to the beginning of 1985, Secretary Andropov would present himself at the start of the new 5-year plan -- a crucial element in the government's action in the USSR -- having gained control of the party through making changes first in local cadres and then in the Central Committee, and with a government staff presumably changed according to the criteria of competence and efficiency, to which the new leadership attaches such great importance. Thus he would have created conditions which would make it possible to regard the first phase of his administration at both party and state levels as closed.

Let us reexamine the information we have been given point by point, following the chronological order of the events indicated. Some warnings are necessary. Although in many cases there is objective confirmation, it is not possible to independently check the reliability of some of the information. The source which supplied it to us may also be overestimating, intentionally or not, the degree to which the secretary's power has been consolidated and the times at which the proposals attributed to him will be implemented. Finally, there is the unknown factor of the CPSU leader's state of health, which, however, seems to have stabilized, judging from his latest public appearances.

Mobilization at the Grassroots Level

1 -- The Soviet press is beginning to carry reports on the "report and election" meetings being held in the 400,000 or so primary CPSU organizations established in places of work. The cells renew their own leaders each year, while different terms are laid down for the successive levels of organization -- all on a territorial basis. But a decision announced by the Politburo on 5 August launched an "important political" and electoral "campaign" for the fall and winter which affects two-thirds of the party's pyramidal structure, with the consequent renewal of leadership cadres from cell to rayon and oblast level. In other words, this leaves out only party organs at republic and all-union level.

According to our source, the amalgamation of "electoral conferences and congresses -- usually held at different times -- into a single round of meetings is the sign that it is intended to hold an early CPSU Congress, for which preparations are already underway, with the mobilization decided on in August. The fact that two-thirds of party leadership cadres will be renewed obviously does not mean that they will be replaced en bloc. But this is the statutory opportunity for a substantial rejuvenation of the apparatus, if the political will and capacity for it exist.

"Andropov can do it," the source said, "because the election campaign takes place under his control, since the Central Committee section chiefs in charge of it are men who can be regarded as being within the Andropov circle." The supervision of the entire operation has apparently been entrusted to Gorbachev.

2 -- A broad reshuffle in the Council of Ministers, with the replacement of Prime Minister Tikhonov himself (who will be 79 in 1984) will apparently take place in the late spring. Hitherto the number of posts whose incumbents have been replaced by Andropov through dismissal, retirement, or transfer is 15 out of a total of about 90. The two natural candidates to succeed Tikhonov -- rumor has it that he himself wants to leave the post -- would seem to be Aliyev and Gromyko, that is, the two first deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers who are also Politburo members. But this does not mean that the list may not be longer.

3 -- The elections for the renewal of the Supreme Soviet will also be held in the spring. The legislative term lasts 5 years and the previous elections were in March 1979.

The first session of the new soviet in June should provide a ratification of the changes carried out in the composition of the government, previously formally deliberated by the Supreme Soviet Presidium, which according to the Constitution "Performs the functions of the supreme body of the USSR's state power in the intervals between Supreme Soviet sessions."

4 -- The 27th CPSU Congress will therefore apparently be brought forward a year and be held in January-February 1985. Until 1971 congresses were held by statute every 4 years (though Stalin failed to convene a congress 1939 through 1952), and subsequently they have been held every 5, so as to make them coincide with the start of 5-year programs whose basic guidelines are presented to delegates by the chairman of the Council of Ministers and then approved.

Those Brezhnevians Expelled in June

According to our source, the bringing forward of the congress, which would nevertheless not be a special congress, will encounter no hindrance in the shape of the link established with the 5-year plan, in this case the 1986-1990 plan. Indeed, an early congress would permit a discussion and approval of the basic guidelines of the plan while it is still at the formulation stage, albeit an advanced stage, whereas at present the congress in fact approves a plan whose implementation has already begun. For instance, the 26th Congress was held at the end of February 1981, but the entire industrial mechanism was already working on basis on the plan that had come into effect on 1 January, following approval by the Council of Ministers and Gosplan. Apart from this aspect, an early congress would be reflected in the earlier appointment of a new Central Committee, whose composition would reflect the new Secretariat's options.

5 -- All the foregoing obviously presupposes a considerable degree of consolidation of Andropov's power. According to our source, since the June plenum this process has indeed been accelerated, and the area of resistance has been narrowed and apparently weakened. At the June plenum two members of the Brezhnev clan were expelled from the Central Committee, one until December interior minister, the other until a few months ago secretary of Krasnodar Kray, and the significance of this operation in terms of power was apparently not lost on the apparatus.

The only leadership changes made at the plenum were Romanov's appointment to the Secretariat (he was already a Politburo member and Leningrad secretary) and the appointment of the former ambassador to Cuba, Vorotnikov, as candidate Politburo member. The former supported Andropov in his rise, while the latter is a supporter of the general secretary too. But apart from these limited changes (the November plenum will show what other changes there will be at this level), the CPSU leader has apparently carried out a redistribution of responsibilities, increasing the influence of certain men, starting with Gorbachev.

6 -- According to our source, Gorbachev has been freed of his prime responsibility for agriculture -- with which he had dealt since his entry into the secretariat in 1978, following a party career in Stavropol Kray (where Andropov too was born) -- to become the CPSU leader's principal aide. Even until the late spring, Gorbachev attended party meetings and assemblies devoted to agricultural matters, but in recent months he does not seem to have visited any agricultural regions, and instead of following harvest seems to be managing the CPSU election campaign.

Young Mikhail's Sudden Good Fortune

In fact since the start of the year the man who, by virtue of his combined seniority within the two top leadership bodies, must be considered number three in the Kremlin hierarchy, has been highlighted on prominent occasions by his specific technical capacity. He led a political mission to Canada; he delivered the official speech at Lenin's annual birthday celebration in April; he presided over the CPSU veterans' assembly in August at which Andropov spoke: He was the only leader of this level to see Gromyko off at his departure for Madrid following the downing of the jumbo jet.

There is no doubt that dissociation from exclusively sectoral responsibilities is essential in the further political growth of the youngest of the CPSU's top leaders, especially when the sector concerned is agriculture, which for the past 30 years has succeeded in destroying career after career. It would seem logical to bring this experience to a close now, having introduced a number of major structural innovations and in an agricultural year that promises to be the best for 5 years, if sights have been set on Gorbachev with an eye to the future.

8-MONTH INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE FIGURES

PM251941 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 38, Sep 83 (Signed to Press 12 Sep 83) p 4

[Unattributed "Statistical Summary": "USSR Industry During the First 8 Months of 1983"]

[Text] The EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA Editorial Board has obtained from the USSR Central Statistical Administration the following data on the results of industry's work in the period January-August 1983.

The overall volume of production in January-August 1983 increased 4 percent against the corresponding period last year.

Labor productivity increased 3.4 percent in the same period.

The January-August plan for output sales was fulfilled by 102 percent. The plan was fulfilled by all the industrial ministries and union republics.

The data for the fulfillment of the plan for output volume and production and labor productivity growth rates for the ministries are cited below:

All-union and union republic ministries and departments	Percentage fulfillment of Jan-Aug plan for output volume	Jan-Aug 1983 as percentage of Jan-Aug 1982	
		Production volume	Labor productivity
Power and electrification	100.8	103	100.3
Petroleum industry	101	102	99
Petroleum refining and Petrochemical industry	100.8	102	102
Gas industry	102	106	105
Coal industry	100.3	101	99.4
Ferrous metallurgy	102	103	103
Nonferrous metallurgy	101	103	103
Chemical industry	102	105	104
Mineral fertilizer production	102	109	107
Power machine building	102	106	105
Heavy and transport machine building	101	105	105
Electrical equipment industry	102	107	107
Chemical and Petroleum machine building	102	108	108
Machine tool and tool building industry	102	107	106
Instrument making, automation equipment and control systems	102	106	107
Automotive industry	102	104	104
Tractor and agricultural machine building	102	106	105
Machine building for animal husbandry and feed production	101	110	107
Construction, road, and municipal machine building	102	105	105
Machine building for light and food industry and household appliances	101	106	106
Timber, pulp and paper and wood processing industry	101	105	105
Construction materials industry	101	104	104

Light industry	100.8	100.4	102
Food industry	103	104	104
Fruit and vegetable farming	105	111	108
Meat and dairy industry	104	108	107
Fish industry	104	104	104
Procurement	102	103	102
Medical industry	101	108	107
Main administration of the microbiological industry	104	116	113

For the machine-building ministries, the Ministries of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood-Processing Industry, the Construction Materials Industry, and procurement, and the Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry, which have completely gone over to planning and evaluating performance according to normative net output, the data have been cited in accordance with that indicator.

The indicators for fulfillment of the output sales plan and production volume growth rates for the union republics (including industry under union jurisdiction) are as follows:

Union republics	Percentage fulfillment of Jan-Aug plan for output sales	Jan-Aug 1983 as percengage of Jan-Aug 1982 in terms of production volume
RSFSR	101	103.7
Ukrainian SSR	102	103.7
Belorussian SSR	102	104.8
Uzbek SSR	102	104.8
Kazakh SSR	102	103.4
Georgian SSR	102	105.5
Azerbaijan SSR	102	105.3
Lithuanian SSR	102	105.0
Moldavian SSR	103	114.7
Latvian SSR	102	102.0
Kirghiz SSR	101	102.9
Tajik SSR	102	100.8
Armenian SSR	102	105.2
Turkmen SSR	104	104.0
Estonian SSR	102	104.5

Production of the most important types of output for the country as a whole totaled:

Types of output	Output produced		Jan-Aug 1983 percentage of Jan-Aug 1982
	In Aug 1983	In Jan-Aug 1983	
Electric power -- billion kilowatt hours	108	924	103
Oil (including gas condensate) -- million metric tons	52.6	412	101
Gas -- billion cubic meters	43.6	351	107
Coal -- million metric tons	59.0	480	99.7
Steel -- million metric tons	12.8	102	103
Rolled ferrous metal products (finished) -- million metric tons	9.0	70.7	103
Steel pipes -- million metric tons	1.7	12.6	105

Iron ore -- million metric tons	21.0	164	100.9
Mineral fertilizers (in 100-percent nutrient equivalent) -- million metric tons	2.4	19.9	109
Chemical plant-protection agents (standard units) -- thousand metric tons	45.6	376	105
Caustic soda -- million metric tons	0.2	1.9	102
Sulfuric acid --million metric tons	2.0	16.2	103
Synthetic resins and plastics -- million metric tons	0.4	2.9	108
Chemical fibers and yarn -- thousand metric tons	109	882	105
Motor vehicle tires -- millions	5.1	41.2	100.4
AC electric motors -- million kilowatts	4.5	35.5	100
Metal-cutting machine tools -- million rubles	185	1,453	105
of which, those with digital program control	49.2	393	118
Forging and pressing machines -- million rubles	53.3	436	106
Automatic manipulators with program control (industrial robots) -- thousands	0.8	6.6	205
Instruments, means of automation and spare parts -- billion rubles	0.4	2.9	106
Computer equipment and spare parts -- billion rubles	0.3	2.1	112
Oil apparatus -- million rubles	17.0	141	99.5
Chemical equipment and spare parts -- million rubles	67.0	542	105
Technological equipment and spare parts for the light and food industry -- million rubles	128	1,034	106
Mainline diesel locomotives -- million horsepower	0.3	2.7	109
Mainline electric locomotives -- million horsepower	0.3	2.6	102
Mainline freightcars -- thousands	4.9	39.3	99.5
Tractors -- thousands	47.4	376	102
Agricultural machines -- billion rubles	0.3	2.3	105
Machines for animal husbandry and feed production -- billion rubles	0.2	1.6	107
Grain harvesting combines -- thousands	9.9	77.5	105
Excavators -- thousands	3.6	28.0	97
Commercial timber (excluding small-scale timber procurers) -- million cubic meters	17.4	177	101
Paper -- million metric tons	0.5	3.8	104
of which, newsprint -- billion square meters	2.6	20.8	102
Cement -- million metric tons	10.8	85.2	104
Precast ferroconcrete (excluding output of subsidiary enterprises) -- million cubic meters	8.7	69.7	103
Textiles, all types -- billion square meters	0.9	7.5	102
Knitted underwear and outerwear -- million items	134	1,064	102

Leather footwear million pairs	55.3	486	101
Meat (from state raw material resources) -- million metric tons	0.8	5.6	109
Sausage products (from state raw material resources) -- million metric tons	0.2	1.9	101
Edible fish products, including canned fish -- billion rubles	0.7	4.4	106
Butter (from state raw material resources) -- million metric tons	0.2	1.1	115
Whole milk products in milk equivalent (from state raw material resources) -- million metric tons	2.3	18.5	106
Margarine products (from state raw material resources) -- thousand metric tons	94.7	94.1	102
Vegetable oil (from state raw material resources) -- million metric tons	0.1	1.5	107
Clocks and watches -- millions	5.9	46.4	99
China, earthenware, and majolica -- million rubles	73.6	577	104
Radio receivers -- millions	0.8	6.1	105
Television sets -- millions of	0.7	5.7	103
which, color sets	0.3	2.3	111
Refrigerators and freezers -- millions	0.5	3.8	98
of which, those with a capacity of 200 cubic decimeters or more	0.2	1.8	104
Washing machines -- millions	0.4	2.8	107
Passenger motor cars -- thousands	113	874	101
Motorcycles and motorscooters -- thousands	95.1	745	102
Furniture -- billion rubles	0.6	4.7	106

Commentary on the Summary

The results of industry's work in the first 8 months of 1983 have been summed up. The plan for the volume of output sales was fulfilled by 102 percent for industry as a whole. All the union republics and industrial ministries coped with the target for overall output volume.

The January-August plan was overfulfilled for the extraction of oil (including gas condensate), gas, and coal and the production of cast iron, steel pipes, mineral fertilizers, chemical plant protection agents, motor vehicles, tractors, grain-harvesting combines, paper, television sets, radio receivers, meat, butter, and whole milk products. Since the beginning of the year 5.7 billion cubic meters of gas, R151 millions' worth of instruments, means of automation, and computer equipment, and more than R15 millions' worth of agricultural machines and machines for animal husbandry and feed production have been obtained in excess of the plan.

The overall volume of industrial production increased 4 percent compared with January-August last year and labor productivity in industry increased 3.4 percent in this period. Some 85 percent of the increase in industrial output was obtained from increased labor productivity, while in sectors such as heavy and transport machine building, instrument making, construction, road and municipal machine building, timber, pulp and paper processing, light industry, and the fish industry this factor accounted for the entire increase.

Among the union republics the highest growth rates for overall production volume were attained in the industry of Moldavia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Lithuania.

All the industrial ministries fulfilled the 8-month plan for consumer goods output per ruble of the wages fund. The plans for this indicator established for January-August this year for production associations and enterprises were fulfilled by all the union republics.

The overall volume of consumer goods production (in retail prices) increased 4 percent compared with the corresponding period last year. During this period the output of fabrics increased 2 percent, nonwoven materials 11 percent, butter 15 percent, whole milk products and edible fish products 6 percent, and cultural, consumer, and economic goods 3 percent. The January-July [as published] plan for the prime cost of output was fulfilled. In comparison with the corresponding period last year expenditure per ruble of commodity output decreased 0.4 percent and material expenditure 0.5 percent.

At the same time, there were shortcomings in the development of certain industrial sectors. The 8-month plan for the production of finished rolled ferrous metal products was underfulfilled. Associations and enterprises of the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry failed to fulfill the plan target for labor productivity growth.

Certain sectors failed to ensure complete fulfillment of contract commitments for output deliveries. More than two-thirds of associations and enterprises did not cope with the plan for sales output taking account of delivery commitments in the petroleum refining and petrochemical industry, the coal industry, ferrous metallurgy, the chemical industry, the mineral fertilizer production industry, heavy and transport machine building, the electrical equipment industry, the automotive industry, and the timber, pulp and paper, and wood processing industry.

While the 7-month [as published] plan for the prime cost of output throughout industry as a whole was fulfilled, plan targets were not fulfilled by associations and enterprises of the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Farming, and the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry. The biggest excess over the limit on material expenditure was permitted by the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production, the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry, and the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry.

The prescribed deadlines for assimilating the design capacities of commissioned enterprises and installations are not always being met. In particular, there has been a lag behind the prescribed deadlines in assimilating capacities for the production of steel pipes at the Vyksunskiy Metallurgical plan (Gorkiy Oblast) of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy of tractor spares at the Yemanzhelinsk (Chelyabinsk Oblast) Machine Plant and the Kursk tractor spares plant of the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine building, of unbleached cotton fabrics at the Biruniyskiy fabrics factory of the Ministry of the Light Industry, and of confectionary at the Ministry of the Food Industry's Utrak Factory in the Uzbek SSR.

Output of certain kinds of products was not organized at the capacities commissioned in late 1982 for the production of these products at the Ziminskiy (Irkutsk Oblast) chemical plan of the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry's Kutaisi Automotive Plant, and the Gomel moldings and standard parts plant.

In the period remaining before the end of the year association and enterprise collectives in all sectors of industry must substantially increase production growth rates for all the types of output in which a considerable lag has been permitted since the beginning of the current year.

In order to resolve this task it is necessary to analyze the causes of the lag and take all the necessary measures to rectify the situation so as to ensure the successful completion of the plan targets and adopted socialist pledges for 1983.

JAN-AUG STOCKRAISING PERFORMANCE REPORTED

PM230723 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 38, Sep 83 (Signed to Press 12 Sep 83) p 16

[Unattributed "Statistical Summary": "Stockraising on Kolkhozes and Sovkhozes"]

[Text] The editorial office has received USSR Central Statistical Administration data on the state of stockraising on the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes for January-August 1983.

In fulfilling plan targets, many kolkhozes and sovkhozes have strengthened the feed base and improved livestock care and on this basis have achieved an increase in livestock productivity and an increase in production and sale to the state of livestock products. Recently, the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU, and the Komsomol Central Committee reviewed the results of the all-union competition among stockraisers and determined the winners. Their experience is evidence of the great reserves in this sector.

Now, at the concluding stage of the pasturing period, farms are striving to obtain maximum output with minimum expenditure of labor and resources.

I. Production of Livestock Products

Indicators	Jan-Aug 1983	Jan-Aug 1983 as percentage of Jan-Aug 1982
Meat production (sale of livestock and poultry for slaughter, live weight) -- thousand metric tons	10,347	107
of which, cattle	5,855	105
hogs	2,598	111
sheep and goats	535	102
poultry	1,359	109
Gross milk yield -- thousand metric tons	49,391	108
Average milk yield per cow -- kg	1,742	108
Hen's eggs -- millions	34,576	105
Average egg yield per laying hen	143	103

In January-August 1983 in comparison with the same period last year meat production increased by 636,000 metric tons on kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The output of this product increased on farms in the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Lithuania, Moldavia, Latvia, Turkmenistan, and Estonia.

In the RSFSR the biggest increase in meat production during the first 8 months of the year was secured on farms in Arkhangelsk, Murmansk, Pskov, Vladimir, Kaluga, Orel, Ryazan, Tula, Kirov, Tambov, Ulyanovsk, Perm, Kamchatka, and Kaliningrad Oblasts, the Karelian, Mari, Mordovian, Chuvash, Tatar, North Ostetian, Chechen-Ingush, Udmurt, and Yakutsk ASSR's, and Krasnodar and Maritime Krays.

The gross milk yield for the 8 months was 3,779,000 metric tons more than the same period last year. The biggest production increase was achieved by farms in the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Lithuania, Moldavia, Latvia, and Estonia.

Egg production on kolkhozes and sovkhozes increased by 1,776,000,000 eggs in the 8 months in comparison with the same period last year. Farms in all the union republics achieved an increase in this product.

II. Purchases of Livestock Products on Kolkhozes, Sovkhozes, and Other State Farms

Types of output purchased	Purchased in Jan-Aug 1983	Jan-Aug 1983 as percentage of Jan-Aug 1982
Livestock and poultry (live weight) -- thousand metric tons	10,142	108
Milk -- thousand metric tons	45,440	111
Eggs -- millions	32,262	104

The volume of sales to the state of livestock and poultry by kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other state farms increased by 724,000 metric tons. Purchases of these products increased in all the union republics except Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, and Armenia.

Purchases of milk and dairy products increased by 4,651,000 metric tons. There was an increase in the purchases of these products in all the union republics except Georgia and Armenia. The biggest increase in purchases was secured by farms in Latvia, Moldavia, Lithuania, Estonia, the RSFSR, and the Ukraine. There was a considerable increase in the sale of these products on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Chuvash, Mari, Mordovian, Tatar, and Udmurt ASSR's, Kirov, Vladimir, Kaliningrad, Gorkiy, Tula, Perm, Ryazan, Ulyanovsk, and Tambov Oblasts, Krasnodar and Maritime Krays, and Ivanovo, Sverdlovsk, Vologda, Orel, Kaluga, Kursk, Tyumen, Arkhangelsk, and other oblasts.

The sale of eggs to the state in January-August increased by 1,293,000,000. Egg purchases increased on farms in all the union republics.

III. Production and Purchases of Livestock Products by Union Republics

	Jan-Aug 1983 as percentage of Jan-Aug 1982					
	production			purchases		
	meat	milk	eggs	livestock and poultry	milk	eggs
USSR	107	108	105	108	111	104
RSFSR	107	109	105	108	112	103
of which Nonchernozem Zone	112	113	105	112	116	103
Ukrainian SSR	105	110	106	105	112	106
Belorussian SSR	109	104	105	109	108	103
Uzbek SSR	104	102	100.2	106	103	104.4
Kazakh SSR	97	100.8	105	98	104	104
Georgian SSR	103	100.8	113	107	98	110
Azerbaijan SSR	105	103	107	106	103	108
Lithuanian SSR	125	109	106	126	119	106
Moldavian SSR	114	116	107	116	122	106
Latvian SSR	113	111	111	118	124	109
Kirghiz SSR	95	99	110	95	102	109
Tajik SSR	99.9	102	106	102	103	105
Armenian SSR	96	100.2	115	96	99.6	115
Turkmen SSR	102	100.5	105	106	106	106
Estonian SSR	130	112	104	133	118	104

In addition, procurement organizations purchased 626,000 metric tons of milk and 285,000 metric tons of livestock on the population's personal farms in January-August 1983.

IV. Livestock Population

As of 1 September 1983 there were 95.1 million head of cattle on kolkhozes and sovkhozes, which is 1.5 million more than on the same date last year. The number of cows reached 29.9 million. The hog population was 61.8 million, an increase of 2.7 million. There were 133.3 million sheep and goats, which is an increase of 2.2 million. The number of poultry reached 764.2 million, an increase of 17.6 million. The cattle population increased on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in all the union republics except Georgia, Latvia, and Estonia. The hog population increased on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in all the union republics except Kirghizia.

With every day the time draws nearer for livestock units to transfer from pasturing to stabling livestock. The leading farms are taking every measure to lay in as much coarse and succulent feed as possible and to keep both public stockraising and livestock in citizens' personal possession provided with it.

The task of preparing livestock units for the winter, putting premises and their equipment in order, adjusting all machinery, and creating the best conditions for stockraisers' work is just as important. Farms in a number of the country's rayons have resolved during this period to increase milk yields, livestock weights, and production of offspring, and on this basis secure a substantial increase in output. The broad dissemination of advanced experience and the organization of effective competition among collectives for the best indicators constitute an important reserve for improving stockraising's efficiency.